Web Mistress Geek Grrrl

offers a guided tour of fetish fantasies and opportunities in the world of cyberspace.

page 13

PEP talk: DPH, UCSF consider

postexposure prophylaxis. page 26



Sueder than thou Adrian Roberts chats with Suede's Mat Osman. see Arts section



Vol. 27 • No. 21 • 22 May 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 26 years

Duncan Fox, hair hopper.

Homo hair hysteria at Hilton

by Dennis Conkin

visit last week to the popular Castro Street salon Bruno's Hair Design netted a bad hair day for openly gay San Francisco Hilton Hotel worker Duncan Fox when he reported for work on Monday, May 19. Executive Assistant Hilton Manager Dawn Berry said the new blonde highlights in Fox's hair were not appropriate for the workplace and ordered the 29-year-old dispatcher for the hotel's guest service department to go home until they are gone.

According to Fox, another gay Hilton worker also received a similar edict last week.

Berry delivered the dictum through

Berry delivered the dictum through Fox's immediate supervisor Emmanuel Brueh, who handed Fox a memo and ordered him to go home until the tint grows out or he dyes his hair back to its

grows out or he dyes his hair back to its natural light brown color.

"I can't believe this is happening," Fox told the Bay Area Reporter. "I am being treated like a common criminal. Especially since I've got a perfect work record: I've never called in sick. I'm reliable. There was no friction. I was happy with myjob. I am liked by my peers, I'm openly gay, and I'm devastated.
"I never thought this sort of thing would happen in San Francisco."
Fox said that he had highlights in his hair when he was hired to work at the Hilton Hotel in 1995, and that other Hilton workers, including women and heterosexual men, routinely wear their hair dressed with

women and heterosexual men, rou-tinely wear their hair dressed with highlights, henna, and hair color. "I do it seasonally," he said, "in the spring and summer. I think it's kind of silly to have highlights in the winter. I have a decent tan, so it looks okay now." Brueh told Fox that "future similar

page 29 ▶

Clinton announces AIDS vaccine initiative

by Bob Roehr

t is no longer a question of whether we can develop an AIDS vaccine, it is simply a question of when," said President Bill Clinton. He committed the nation to developing an HIV vaccine within ten years, comparing it to John F. Kennedy's pledge to put a man on the moon in the 1960s. The long anticipated initiative was about 15 percent of his commencement address at historically black Morgan State University in Baltimore on Sunday, May 18.

Most people knowledgeable of HIV applauded the president's intent but were skeptical of the outcome. Perhaps they remembered the prediction that Ronald Reagan's Secretary of Health and Human Services, Margaret Heckler, made in April 1984. She said they would have a vaccine in trial in two

said they would have a vaccine in trial in two

said they would have a vaccine in trial in two years. It did not happen.

Many leading scientists do not share Clinton's certitude that an HIV vaccine can be developed within that time frame, or per-haps ever. AIDS activists question whether his commitment is more than rhetoric. The President has proposed no new money. His initiative consists largely of reorganizing 30-50 existing employees at the National Insti-tutes of Health into a vaccine research center.

The politics

This year Clinton has sought to make



Man in the moon: Preside vaccine within a decade. : President Clinton wants a

vaccines his signature mark on the epidemvaccines his signature mark of the epideli-ic. "With new resources, NIH will now be-come the most powerful discovery engine for an AIDS vaccine, working with other sci-entists to finally end the threat of AIDS," he said in his February State of the Union Address. "We must reinforce our commitment to medical science." His subsequent budget for NIH offered an increase in funding that would not keep pace with the rate of inflation for medical care. Vaccines were a high priority at a meeting of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS in early April. Dr. David Baltimore, chair of the AIDS Vaccine Research Committee at NIH, told them it was "not possible to put a date" on developing a vaccine, since there are "too many uncertainties." Others expressed little need for a restructuring of research. "I flinch at the concept of more coordination," said NIAID Director Anthony Fauci.

But in his most political comments of the meeting, chairman Scott Hitt told the body that the president wants to do "the man on the moon" analogy in moving this as a priority of the administration. He recommendority of the administration. He recommended they support the effort. The final document urged development of "a vaccine to prevent HIV/AIDS within a decade," with "a significant and sustained increase in funds... from new sources."

In a private conversation, Dr. William Paul, director of the Office of AIDS Research (OAR) at NIH, described the new lab as an (OAK) at NIH, described the new lad as an intramural effort jointly sponsored by NIAID and NCI. They are the two major existing players in vaccine research. Each will contribute their existing resources, which will be supplemented with funding from

OAR's discretionary account.
Paul called the president's challenge "a
formidable undertaking ...one which I am
confident we can achieve, though not quite

page 16 ▶

Treatment on demand in demand at Health Commissio

by Cynthia Laird

he San Francisco Health Commission unanimously adopted a resolution supporting substance abuse treatment on demand, and members praised a community planning council's report on the program at its meeting Tuesday, May 20. The resolution now goes to the Board of Supervisors

and, ultimately, to Mayor Willie Brown.

It is expected that the city's 1997-98 budget will contain funding for at least a portion of treatment on demand; fully funding such a program has been estimated at \$20 million

on Tuesday, Health Director Dr. Sandra Hernandez, a strong proponent of the program, urged the commission and public to have patience and give such a program several years of investment before expecting to

see dramatic results.

"The challenge is for other departments The challenge is for other departments to be patient enough. We won't see the impact for two, three, or four years," Hernandez said following the presentation. She added that as new residential programs are opened, the health department will probably have to combat NIMBY (Not In My Back Vard), impropulates residents.

Yard)-ism from area residents.
Already, the Department of Public Health
(DPH) has taken the first steps toward im-

plementing substance abuse treatment on demand. The board of supervisors recently approved \$1.6 million in spending designed to increase the capacity of various substance abuse programs this fiscal year. Treatment on demand would enable peo-ple to seek substance abuse treatment with-

ple to seek substance abuse treatment with-out having to wait to get into a program. The ambitious plan would end up saving the city money in the long run, advocates say, be-cause the cost of treatment is less than costs of services used when people are not in treat-ment, including police, court, foster care,

and emergency room costs.

Currently, untreated substance abuse is costing the city over \$1 billion a year.

Gay speed problem

Jenny Friedenbach of the Coalition on Homelessness told the commissioners that one of the biggest unmet needs in terms of substance abuse treatment is within the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender commu-

nity. "There are very few gay-friendly treat-ment programs."

She also pointed to the high use of methamphetamine among gay men, some-thing that Supervisor Susan Leal emphasized last year when the first hearing was held to

discuss treatment on demand.

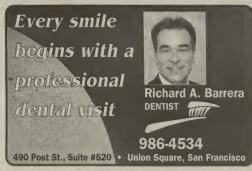
Programs for youth, including queer young people, are another example of a

"gaping hole" in treatment programs, Friedenbach said.
Dr. Larry Meredith, director of the DPH Community Substance Abuse Services pro-gram, also spoke at Tuesday's presentation, which was the first public unveiling of the

page 24 ▶

INSIDE 27 **BAR Talk** Bazaar 54 Classifieds 31 GLAAD 12 Mailstrom 7 **Obituaries** 28 Open Forum 6 Our Man Friday 9 Out & About 52 Out There 39 Personals 58 Sapphistication 10 **Sports Complex** 30

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Federal cops arrest gay minister at Presidio housing demo

by Dennis Conkin

lesbian and gay communi-ty religious leader was one of nearly four dozen ac-tivists arrested Sunday, May 18 by U.S. Park Police during a protest over the planned destruction of housing at the Presidio.

The Reverend Jeff Johnson, the

openly gay pastor of First United Lutheran Church, was charged with suspicion of trespassing and demonstrating without a permit, and was ordered to appear in federal court on June 5.

Johnson and 42 other mem-bers of Religious Witness with Homeless People were arrested around 7:30 p.m., after occupying a vacant home in the former officers' housing tract near Letterman General Hospital at the former

General Hospital at the former military base.

More than 300 people had participated in an earlier 2 p.m. protest walk through the Presidio to highlight the planned demolition of 466 units of residential housing and the conversion of the Wherry housing tract to a pressure for endangered species.

serve for endangered species.

The incident is the fifth by the group at the Presidio. Last March, 83 people were arrested after committing nonviolent civil disobedience at the site.

Inconsistency

I was arrested to demonstrate the inconsistency that the National Park Service would rent housing to moderate and high income but not to poor people," Johnson

The park service initially expressed plans to rent former Pre-sidio officer's housing units at the site for \$1,500-\$,4000 a month per unit, but now says the matter is on hold and will be decided by trustees of the Presidio Trust, which will oversee operations of

The Wherry Housing tract is 2.5 miles away from the former officers' housing. Sister Bernie Galvin, director of Religious Witness with Homeless People, told ness with Homeless People, told the Bay Area Reporter that an individual who was physically removed by police from the site after climbing into a crawl space was not affiliated with the group. Johnson said the Religious Witness group would continue to protest and occupy Presidio housing as a form of civil disobedience over the issue

over the issue
"The Wherry Housing site is



Rev. Jeff Johnson (foreground) must appear in federal court on June 5.

perfect for homeless and low inperfect for homeless and low in-come San Francisco residents, in-cluding lesbians and gay men and people living with AIDS," Johnson told the *Bay Area Reporter*. San Francisco Supervisor Le-

land Yee, who also participated in the protest, said the issue is about economic justice for poor San

Yee called the Presidio a "Peo-Yee called the Presidio a "Peo-ple's Park," and said that it was for the use of people of diverse cul-tural backgrounds, sexual orien-tations, and economic situations. Yee called on the Park Service not to destroy the housing and said that he participated in the

protest "because as a human being it was important for me to say no" to the destruction of

say no to the destruction of housing when San Francisco has a shortage of housing for low in-come residents. Members of Religious Witness earlier this month denounced Representative Nancy Pelosi's

Representative Nancy Pelosi's proposal to ship the housing units by barge to Bayview Hunter's Point as "blatant discrimination."

Both Mayor Willie Brown and the Board of Supervisors have also denounced the planned destruction of the Presidio housing stock and urged that it be retained for the use of poor people. ▼

Meeting to discuss homelessness in Castro set for next Thursday

by Cynthia Laird

an Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano and the Castro Area Planning Association (CAPA) will hold a meeting at the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy next Thursday, May 29, to come up with a community response to homelessness in the Castro. People representing various community groups are expected to speak, including neighborhood residents, merchants, service providers, and homeless representatives.

Meeting organizers urge interested people to attend so that their views and comments can be heard. The goal is to identify concerns and begin to identify solutions, they said. ▼

The meeting starts at 7 p.m.; the Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy is located at 4235 19th Street, at Collingwood.



Close HRC committee vote on sex club regs

by Liz Highleyman

y an unusually close vote, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Advisory Committee (LGBTAC) of the Human Rights Commission approved on May 20 a recommendation to ask the Department of Public Health (DPH) to reconsider regulations prohibiting private spaces in sex clubs. Tuesday's meeting was a follow-up to a discussion begun at the committee's March meeting.

The meeting was notable for the degree of mixed feeling expressed by committee members and those giving public comment. Meetings and forums over the past several months have been characterized by strong sentiment against the DPH's "Minimum Standards for the Operation of Sex Clubs and Parties."

While several speakers were familiar from recent meetings, some new voices were heard. DPH director Dr. Sandra Hernandez gave her perspective on the

While several speakers were familiar from recent meetings, some new voices were heard. DPH director Dr. Sandra Hernandez gave her perspective on the history of sex club regulations and the difficulty of balancing individual liberties and public health initiatives. Hernandez has been criticized in the past for allowing the department's perspective to be expressed by AIDS Office representatives rather than addressing the community herself. Hernandez began working on the issue as director of the AIDS Office. After lengthy deliberation with members of the Coalition for Healthy

Sex (CHS), she was persuaded that the guidelines that later became the Minimum Standards were "a reasonable compromise," and "as far as we could go" without jeopardizing the DPH's mission. She emphasized that the guidelines were brought to the DPH by the CHS, not imposed from above. Hernandez concluded that the DPH has done "the best we can" to develop a balance between "the right to express sexual freedom and the responsibility to act as a community to prevent HIV infection."

Race Bannon of Community United for Sexual Privacy (CUSP) reminded the committee that at its March meeting, CHS member Buzz Bense had presented a letter from that group that "unanimously condemned the process" by which the DPH regulations were instituted. Bannon claimed that Hernandez's contention that the community had created the regulations was "a sham." He reiterated CUSP's position that there is no scientific data showing that private spaces lead to unsafe sex, and pointed out that those who have spent time "in the trenches" doing AIDS prevention work "truly believe that privacy will increase, not decrease safer sex."

Sociologist Stephen Murray echoed Bannon, stating that "after

Sociologist Stephen Murray echoed Bannon, stating that "after 14 years of this policy in San Francisco, there is no evidence that it works or that it is cost-effective." Hernandez acknowledged that hard data was scarce, but noted that data to the con-

trary don't exist, either. In contrast to Bannon, she stated that "most people doing HIV prevention work believe that closing the bathhouses has saved many lives."

Data on women

LGBTAC members had previously asked for information about how the regulations impacted women. Sexologist Carol Queen noted that no "vanilla" (non-S/M) women-only sex clubs exist at this time (the Power Exchange Substation hosted a women's night on Sundays, until recently). Queen stated that at her own mixed-gender, mixed-orientation Queen of Heaven parties – which have always followed guidelines much like the DPH regulations – women are "more comfortable" in an atmosphere in which safer sex is required and negotiation is expected. Kitaka Gara, operator of the women's sex club Club Ecstasy, which closed this past winter, provided a written statement noting that at her club staff "host-esses" served both a welcoming and monitoring function. She claimed that monitors made women "feel safer." Gara stated that while she personally didn't like monitors, "human beings will have unsafe sex without monitors – and that includes women." She favors "closed but not locked" doors, and concluded, "if you really want privacy, do it in your bedroom."

bedroom."
Richard Carrazza, also of CUSP, stated that HIV prevention

page 22 ▶

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Bar beer bust no bust



aryl Kelley (left) poses with popular 49er Roger Craig at Daddy's Bar in the Castro on Saturday, May 17, during a beer bust for the Shanti Project. Craig had stopped by to drop off a leather jacket signed by himself and Keena Turner and undoubtedly to drum up some support for Props. D and F.

The jacket was raffled off in front of an enthusiastic crowd of a few hundred people, with \$110 in proceeds going to Shanti.

SF FrontRunners' stunning running social season begins

by Anne Ludwig

he San Francisco Front-Runners again hosted a party for the Bay To Break-ers all weekend long. Each year the gay and lesbian running club hosts a fun-filled weekend that includes the Balloons Across the Bay run, which began at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 17. Each runner/walker was given a helium-filled balloon in one of the colors of the rainbow, and after brief introductions everyone ran across the bridge, turning around at the Vista Point parking lot on the north end of the bridge and returning to the gravel parking lot. A bagel brunch on the Marina Green followed.

Saturday evening there was a pasta feed, replete with entertainment, for which members paid \$10 and non-members the most-

slu and non-members the mostreasonable amount of \$12. Sunday, of course, was the main event – the Bay To Breakers. The FrontRunners always have a theme for this event, and runners are encouraged to dress in whatever costume the theme inspires. This year it was "Family Values," following last year's hugely successful theme of "Gay Weddings." The runners always carry a 50foot rainbow flag that has handles for easy carrying.

About the FrontRunners

The San Francisco FrontRunners is a running club for both competitive and non-competitive runners. There are FrontRunner clubs all over the world in almost every major city. The club originated here in San Francisco 23 years ago: running was part of the curriculum for Lavender University, and when it folded, the running continued, and the Front-Runners were created. As members relocated, clubs sprang up around the country and then around the world.

The San Francisco FrontRun-

The San Francisco FrontRunners currently have a membership of about 250, with about one quarter being women. The club has numerous social activities in addition to their two regular weekly runs. At 9 a.m. on Saturday they meet at the Stow Lake Boathouse in Golden Gate Park, and on Tuesdays Front-Runners take off running from the Ferry Building at the foot of Market Street in the financial district at 6:30 p.m. There are runs and walks up to five miles, and both runs are followed by no-host meals

followed by no-host meals.

People who are considering entering any of the Track and Field events in the Gay Games in

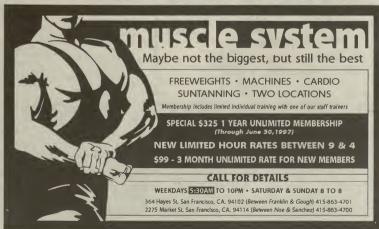
the summer of 1998 might find this a good time to find a group like FrontRunners to train with – and to help brush up on social skills for the other important aspect of the Games!

pect of the Games!

June 28 is the FrontRunners'
18th Annual Pride Run, to help
kick off the Pride weekend celebration. The run starts at 9 a.m. at
the south side of the Polo Fields in
Golden Gate Park. This event has
been growing the past few years
and always has a celebrity starter.
The run has featured some local
politicians, including Roberta
Achtenberg and Susan Leal. Last
year the club was thrilled to have
Jeff Getty as the official race
starter. The Pride Run proceeds
are donated to The Family Link,
which is a guest house for families
visiting people with AIDS.

T

The San Francisco
FrontRunners invite you to join them in their social season as well as their weekly runs. For more information, a
FrontRunner brochure, or a
registration form for Pride Run
'98, please call (415) 978-2429.
If you would like more
information on The Family
Link, call (415) 703-9050.



K-Mart puts price on AIDSphobia: \$9,999.95

by Dennis Conkin

he attorney for a man charg-ing an East Bay K-Mart with AIDS discrimination has turned down an offer to settle the case for a payment – one nickel short of ten thousand bucks.

Attorney Waukeen McCoy said he rejected the \$9,999.95 offer by the giant corporation because of his client's severe trauma. "He's continuing to suffer sub-

stantial trauma because of this incident," McCoy told the Bay Area

Aksel Dirkzwager, the Nicaragua-born plaintiff, was shopping with his four-year-old son at the popular Hayward store for a Mother's Day present for his wife and other items on May 11. wife and other items on May 11, 1996. According to the federal court lawsuit, he was escorted from the store and threatened by a K-Mart security guard after a cashier noticed a blister on Dirkzwager's right index finger



Aksel Dirkzwager

and went into hysterics when he told her he might have AIDS, after

the used her pen to write a check.

The cashier placed the pen on the check stand and refused to hand it to Dirkzwager. After he had signed his check for the items, Dirkzwager attempted to hand the cashier the check and the pen he had borrowed. "She appeared to be frightened to touch either of

these items," the suit claims.

Dirkzwager, who has since

tested negative for HIV, was con-cerned about possible exposure to the virus at the time of the incithe virus at the time of the incident, which he mentioned. According to the lawsuit, the unidentified cashier became "extremely agitated" and began screaming at him.

"Why didn't you tell me that you had AIDS before you used my pen? You contaminated my pen and I already touched it," the cashier allegedly screamed.

According to the lawsuit, the cashier left her work station, paged the K-Mart manager, and said over the public address sys-

said over the public address system that "someone in my line has AIDS and he touched me."

Dirkzwager was then ordered to leave the store, escorted from the premises, and allegedly threatened by a security guard.

McCoy said Dirkzwager's son

suffered nightmares after the public scene, was out of school for a week because of the trauma, and is still showing confusion over the picked out from K-Mart and asks

picked out from K-Mart and asks why he wasn't able to purchase them with his father," he said.

A controversy over evidence in the case, including McCoy's demand for a copy of a potentially damaging statement by the asyet-unidentified clerk, is scheduled to be heard in U.S. District

Court next Wednesday, May 28.

McCoy told the B.A.R. he would wait until he was able to depose the security guard, and de-termine whether K-Mart represented him in the case, before a decision would be made about what legal action to take against him for the alleged abuse of authority. ▼



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Help sought in contacting Ryan kin

by Dennis Conkin

San Francisco man with a medical history of AIDS and intravenous methamphetamine use died Monday, May 12 when the stolen pick-up truck he was driving overturned on top

Patrick Ryan, 29, had been speeding down 24th Street minutes

paul montuillo '97 photos by RAM studio

after he apparently stole a Ford truck that a Fountain Street resident had left parked outside her house. While eluding police, Ryan collided with a parked 1996 Toyota, veered out of control, and was pinned beneath the pick-up. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Ryan had been released the morning of his death from the St. Vincent De Paul Ozanam Detox Center, after a five-day period of detoxification from methamphet-amine. According to a Medical Examiner investigator's report, he had a long history of auto theft. The Medical Examiner's office

is requesting assistance in locating Ryan's parents or next of kin, and anyone with information is asked to call the Medical Examiner's of-fice at (415) 553-1694, according to administrative coroner Herb Hawley.



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Pumping irony

residential spokesmouth Mike McCurry was boxed into a corner this week by a persistent reporter who pointed out that "the federal government is funding a study on the African continent in which AZT is being withheld from women who are pregnant and in which, according to one group, over 1,000 children would die from AIDS as a result of this study in order to find out the cause for disease whose cause is already known." The reporter, building on comments by Public Citizen's Dr. Sydney Wolf, likened the situation to the notorious Tuskegee Experiment in which 399 people Tuskegee Experiment in which 399 people had medication withheld from them for

"Look, we are trying to help," McCurry meandered in government doublespeak, "in way that is appropriate given the economies of the countries they are working in. AZT is not going to be, in most developing countries, an appropriate treatment regimen be-cause of the cost."

The reporter persisted: "Is it ethical in a

The reporter persisted: Is it ethical in a study of this nature for 1,000 children to die? I just want to know what you think of it."

McCurry, with rare prescience, said, "My opinions don't matter," then acknowledged that "the White House's position is that the HHS is doing appropriately what it should do."

that the HHS is doing appropriately what it should do."

After a few more questions – "Are you saying the reason it meets the ethical guidelines is because, if a treatment isn't widely available, then withholding that treatment is ethical?" and "Is it ethical to study the results of the lack of such treatment?" – the reporter went for the \$64,000 question.

"Is there an irony," he asked, "in Dr. Wolfe's calling this "Tuskegee II," just as the president is apologizing for Tuskegee I?"

president is apologizing for Tuskegee I?"
"I am not a person that interprets irony,"
McCurry bristled. "He made the statement;

we think it's wrong. You know, you get to decide whether it's ironic or not."

Well, if we get to decide, here's our decision: we don't think it's ironic. We think it's criminal. Coming, as it does, on the heels of revelations about unethical conditions at a federally-funded needle exchange study in Alaska, it adds up to more evidence that the victims of AIDS are considered prime targets by many more rapacious organisms than just the virus. Like politicians and scientists, for instance.

This makes us a little concerned about the vaccine effort that President Clinton has announced. With so many uncertainties - will the vaccine bring on the disease; are we creating a new disease by mixing HIV DNA with Canary pox; what happens to people who have antibodies to the virus because of vaccination and are therefore likely to be turned down for life insurance, etc. – we would like to see evidence that the government and medical establishment will treat volunteers at least hu-manely, if not like heroes. So **Editorial**

As for the idea of a whole-hearted search for some answers to HIV, we think it's the faint shadow of what was a think it's the faint shadow of what was a great idea. It was an even better idea when Clinton first promised it, six years ago. It was an even better idea when it was proposed by every Presidential Advisory Commission since the Reagan Administration. It isn't only the wasted years in between the proposals that have made this idea so much more anemic; we also worry that the emphasis is on a vaccine, without a similar all-out search for a cure.

Finally, to strike while the irony is hot, we had to laugh at Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott speaking up for that adulterous Air Force fighter pilot this week. "Come on," he told reporters, "we're speaking about human beings"

– meaning, we suppose, that a little
sexual indiscretion is nearly inevitable. In addition to the joy we got from picturing Pat Robertson's face

as he watched Lott's performance, we had to chuckle at so much hetero outrage at any sexual curtailment. The Kelly Flinn case, especially after Tailhook and Aberdeen, proves that a policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Have Anything Approaching a Sexual Thought or Deed" ought to be extended to the straights in service.

extended to the straights in service.

After all, those are the officers who can't seem to keep their hands off their privates.



Bringing safe sex up to date

by Clark L. Taylor PhD, EdD

fforts to incorporate medical infor-mation and protective devices into sex have saved hundreds of thousands of lives and improved the quality of life for people with HIV. But are we doing enough? Are there ways we could be even safer and make sex a lot more enjoyable — a lot hotter? It is easy to think that the gay communi-

ty's involvement in sexual health problems started with the AIDS epidemic. However, we have a long history of concerted action to make sex safer. In the late '60s and early '70s, there was a very serious gonorrhea epi-'70s, there was a very serious gonorrhea epidemic in our community. Gay-oriented materials advertised the problem, and our community responded wholeheartedly. During the mid- and late- 1970s, when hepatitis B was epidemic, we participated in the national research to find a vaccine against the virus. We also joined into research conducted by City Clinic on the transmission of CMV in those early days. When AIDS hit, we used our experience with sexual health and invented safe sex. Safe sex is built upon the belief that sex.

Safe sex is built upon the belief that sex is good, an extremely important part of life. This puts it squarely in the tradition of the gay movement and the sexual revolution. Making sexual health techniques loving, fun, passionate and hot was an obvious way to help us protect ourselves, and it was ex-tremely revolutionary! We knew that it is much more exciting to create new ways to be sexually satisfied than to totally give up an old favorite. And our sexual experimentation in the '60s and '70s empowered us with the knowledge that we can make very significant sexual behavior changes and enjoy ourselves immensely; or at the very least, cope with changes when necessary. The gay community's compliance with risk reduction guidelines and the immense overall reduction of new infections is well-documented. However, we can and must do much better.

Little has been added to our safe sex ar-senal since the early 1980s. We rely primarily upon condoms during anal (or vaginal) intercourse as our first line of defense. Lots of us have learned how to make using them feel really good. At the very least, the peace of mind they provide after sex

is well worth any inconveniences.

Many of us have moved from unprotected rectal sex to sex with condoms, latex gloves, and dental dams, or to unprotected oral sex. These are extremely important steps toward risk reduction. Some people use condoms and other bar-**Guest Opinion** rier protection for oral

sex - very wise, but not very popular. But is that all that is neces-sary, and is it all we could be doing? Definitely not!

It is astounding to me that as good as we are at getting drugs tested, we have done nothing to get scientists to create rectal chemical barriers to STDs. This is in stark contrast to the work being done on vaginal microbicides! Women have been extremely effective in getting new products researched and tested. But we have been extremely and tested a and tested. But we have been almost com-pletely silent about our needs. I think many people assume that if a product stops HIV/STD transmission in the vagina, it will work in the asshole as well. This is not true. The structure, ecology, and other features of the rectum make the transfer of technology very difficult. For example, the colon acts as a water pump: to make shit softer, it pumps water into the bowel, and to make it firmer, it draws water out. Vaginal spermicides, when used in the vagina, are effective at preventing gonorrhea and chlamydia. Many studies show it decreases HIV as well. However, when also decreases the variety of the statement of the section of the sect ever, when placed in the rectum in a dose large enough to cover the walls of the intestine and kill sperm too, these spermicides cause cramping and violent diarrhea, and dissolve the shit into a pile of mess.

dissolve the shit into a pile of mess.

The technology to make liquid condoms is very simple; much easier than curing AIDS. Yet the sparse research being done in this country is conducted without governmental funds or support.

We must insist that research on rectal microbicides begin immediately and with enough funding to see that it proceeds quickly. It is patently obvious that a good rectal microbicide would be used much more frequently than condoms; yet we do nothing

quently than condoms; yet we do nothing to get the research done!

Another option, the internal ("Reality") Another option, the internal ("Reality") condom, may be more effective at preventing STDs than the ordinary condom. This is because the outer rim of the condom covers more skin. Certainly it is worth a try. Besides, a lot of guys much prefer internal condoms because they increase sensation and don't constrict the penis.

Sefects is earlier many records from HIV.

and don't constrict the penis.
Safe sex is saving many people from HIV
and many of the other STDs which cause
such misery in people with AIDS: CMV,
EBV, herpes, hepaŧitis, etc. But sex can be
even safer if we use the technology available
to make it extremely powerful, easier, and
hotter than hell. So dress for the occasions,
lube and lobby! ▼

Grave concerns

Re: Great Gay Getaways: "Hooray for Hollywood" by William J. Mann.

by William J. Mann.

As an Angelino in exile, I find the idea of vacationing in Los Angeles a contradiction in terms. However, should one want to visit the grave site of Marilyn Monroe, she is located in a marble wall niche in Westwood Memorial Cemetery in Westwood, or West Los Angeles, not Forest Lawn. And as there are several Forest Lawns, Ms. Bette Davis is interred in Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, which is actually located in Burbank.

William J. Lynch San Francisco

[Editor's note: We apologize unreservedly.]

Shameless defense

On May 7th I attended a Police Hearing concern-ing the dance permit revocation of Le Club Touche at 16th and Rhode Island Street. For three hours, myself and others listened as victims of violence, police offi-cers, and neighborhood residents testified urging the permit division of the Police Department to revoke this permit.

The testimony we heard was shocking and revolt-

ing. The level of violence associated with this club, as presented by the police department, was overwhelm-

ing. Nothing, however, prepared us for the shameless defense offered by the attorney for this club. Describing an "outreach effort" to the gay and lesbian community, this attorney cited the recent Ellen DeGeneres coming out party co-hosted by the Gay and Les-bian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) as an example of the club's generally non-violent nature. As a gay man, I am outraged that the gay com-munity is being used to keep this club open. In particular, I am outraged that an organization such as GLAAD is being used in this manner. For a club with a documented history of vi-

olence to use the gay and lesbian community to escape responsibility for this violence is reprehensible.

I and others are baffled that GLAAD did not at-

I and others are baffled that GLAAD did not attend the hearing, send a letter, or make any effort to disavow their name being used to keep the doors of this club open. Myself and others notified GLAAD and Club Skirts of the proceedings against this club. We believed the defense would in fact use GLAAD to keep the doors of this club open, yet we were still stunned when this sleazy tactic was in fact used. The owner of the club offered their facility for the Ellen owner of the creek it seems to me when the gay comparty for free. Freek it seems to me when the gay comparty for free. Free? It seems to me when the gay com-munity allows itself to be used in this way, we are giving away something money can't buy - our integrity.

Mailstrom

Bad-mouthing Ellen

Dogs bark, snakes hiss, and asses bray. An ass named Robert Bray, who for years has been living parasitically off the benevolence of contributors to bureaucracies such as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), now has the gall to bite the hands which have fed him by bad-mouthing Ellen DeGeneres and disparaging her truly heroic comingout episode on national network television.

While Legitality acknowledge the groundwork

While I certainly acknowledge the groundwork laid by a long, long list of pioneering heroes and heroines, plus the gay media and press, as well as a long list of past and present organizations, there is no doubt in my mind that Ellen DeGeneres has struck the most effective and historic blow to date to liber-ate gays and lesbians from the negative stereotypical images in which we have been regarded and por-

trayed for centuries.

By portraying her TV character Ellen Morgan as a likable and fully-acceptable girl-next-door who is no-body to fear or avoid, Ellen DeGeneres has accom-plished more in educating the American public about who we really are than the combined efforts of all our bloated, bureaucratic national advocacy organiza-

Starting off with very high ratings, the continuing ratings of *Ellen* will, in fact, serve as the most complete and accurate poll of what Americans think of gays, and it all will be at no cost to beleaguered contributors to our gay and lesbian organizations. Continued high viewer ratings, reflecting widespread acceptance of Ellen and, by interpolation, of gays and lesbians, could be our most powerful argument yet to persuade the President and Congress to support our equal treatment in the workplace and in the military

When news relating to gays and lesbians occurs, the mainstream news media go to organizations such as NGLTF for comments. It's frightening to know that people like Robert Bray have been media spokesper-

Herb King Vista, CA

Enquiring minds don't want to know

Did the National Enquirer take over the Examiner Did the National Enquirer take over the Examiner and Chronicle? I have never seen such a blatant display of irresponsible journalism. Fine, report on Jack Davis's party. Put it in the society pages. But come on. It's hardly front page material – it is certainly not front page material for a week. I am embarrassed that our allegedly open-minded city has two childish, sensationalistic, homophobic gossip rags as our daily papers.

At least we still have the B.A.R. to turn to for re-

Colin Daly San Francisco

Negative population growth

I realize the gay community has a slight public re-lations problem. I just wondered if the gay organiza-tions and businesses have ever considered the unique position they occupy in relation to the overpopula-tion problem facing our modern era. I'm an advocate of negative population growth, and I see homosexu-als as not only being nonreproductive themselves, but also capable of relieving the social burdens of un-wanted children foolishly conceived by irresponsible

individuals, through adoption. To me, this rates as a double positive as far as gay influence on our culture. I think the gay community could benefit greatly by a public relations campaign following this concept. Thank you for allowing me to share my ideas

with you.

Angst in Contra Costa

I would like to comment on the closing of the AIDS Alliance in Concord. I

ing of the AIDS Alliance in Concord. I had been a client for a very long time. It used to be called the AIDS Project of Contra Costa. I'm outraged at the board of directors, who brought it upon themselves to close the doors. Who do they think they are? I'm one of those 400 clients who are being affected by all of this. I need to rely on case management for paying my bills. All that the board of directors want to do is "line their pockets," and to hell with the rest of us. Liz Grossman, or ets," and to hell with the rest of us. Liz Grossman, or whatever her name is, didn't deserve to be president. I wrote them letters concerning the funding problem a long time ago. They just snubbed me and ignored my letters. There was mismanagement, they do not want the gay community to know about it. A client named Ted Milliken said he was doing fine, and his lover was working. That is fine and dandy. What about the rest of us unemployed clients, who only have our social security disability? I have to support myself. We are not treated very well in Contra Costa County. No Project Open Hand, no AIDS Emergency Fund, and now no AIDS Alliance. I hope Liz Grossman and the rest of the board are happy. ets," and to hell with the rest of us. Liz Grossman, or

Scott Sproat Walnut Creek, CA

Macy's cares

Recently, Federated, which now owns Macy's among other companies, offered health benefits to domestic partners of its employees in California. This policy also extends to many other areas throughout

Tom Ammiano, earlier this year, wrote an informative and important letter to Federated/Macy's management, citing "data which demonstrates an insignificant cost impact and significant productivity and employee satisfaction improvements resulting from these reforms."

We are now pressing ahead for bereavement and family medical leave benefits for Macy's employees

who have domestic partners.

No retailer is perfect, but the kinds of major reforms that Federated/Macy's has made in validating our relationships are what many of us in the queer community wish to consider when deciding where to spend our money. Federated/Macy's is to be commended for taking this important step.

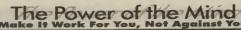
> Bryan Bunch Sales Associate, Macy's Union Square

Pull the cable

[The following letter was also sent to TCI Cable:]
The illegal takeover of our cable system by TCI is bad news for everybody. I just received TCI's official notice of rate increases, and I promptly canceled my

subscription. I encourage everyone else to do so as well, because that's the only way we're ever going to get a good, affordable cable system. TCI and its policies are extremely unpopular right now in San Francisco and the East Bay – they have engineered a truly amazing case of bad publicity. They are the perfect case of the bad effects of a monopoly.

> Christian Matthews Oakland, California



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Transgender bar

At the risk of sounding very much like a well-known, prolific, transsexual letter-writer who often bemoans the assimilation of transsexuals into some larger queer classification, I must nit-pick on your front page story of 5/8/97 whose headline in part read, "Robbers foiled in gay bar heist." The Mother-lode, located at Post and Larkin streets in the upper Tenderloin is a transgender bar, not a gay bar. Albeit gay men also frequent this establishment, the truth of the matter is that transgender women constitute the majority of its clientele.

Were it not for this fact, the owners would not Were it not for this fact, the owners would not have encountered the amount of resistance they did when trying to relocate in 1993, some of which came from gay bars in the neighborhood. Mark and Joe couldn't even move to a larger place across the street in 1995, thanks to the outcry of very vocal groups like Save Our Streets, which pressured Mayor Jordan's office into fighting the move at every turn.

The fact is we transgenders face discrimination even from within the queer community. By not stating the true nature of our bar, the Bay Area Reporter has made us just a little bit more invisible, a little easier to ignore and forget. We have been working for in-

ier to ignore and forget. We have been working for in-clusion and recognition for many years. We applaud those in the community who make the effort to include us, such as certain publications and the LGBT Pride Celebration Committee. It won't hurt you to be more vigilant in acknowledging us. It hurts us when

Christine Beatty

Animal models and an AIDS vaccine

Re: "Experimental AIDS Vaccines Protects Chimps," B.A.R., 5/8/97: It should be noted that there is no animal model for the human immune system. Primates, even chimps, are not perfect models for humans. The major difference is though we are able to mans. The major difference is though we are able to infect appea with HIV, they rarely get sick from it. In fact, there has only been one primate death, Jerome, attributed to HIV in the last 15 years of research. (However, the body was autopsied to prove HIV was present, but omitted cause of death.) SIV, which does make chimps sick, has a 40% correlation to humans, and using vaccines derived from SIV science proved murderous in human trials. Researchers will literally

murderous in human trials. Researchers will literally waste millions studying how HIV does not make chimps sick, instead of focusing on what causes human immune suppression. This is unacceptable.

(And if HIV does not make chimps sick... well, you can see how this plays to HIV dissenters.) Neither of us are doctors, so don't take our word for it. Anthony Fauci of the NIH states about the same vaccine study, "The results aren't any more or less striking than we've sen in other vaccine trials in chimps. The lab

The results aren't any more or less striking than we've seen in other vaccine trials in chimps... The lab stock of HIV used is generally thought of as a rather weak virus, so protection against it is not necessarily all that difficult to obtain." (USA Today, 4/30/97)

If the primate model is insufficient, we can only imagine about the feline, pig, dog, or rodent models. The reality is for any vaccine to prove effective, it needs to be studied in humans. Before you panic about efficacy tests, realize that animal test results that about efficacy tests, realize that animal test results that are negative are usually ignored. AZT and protease inhibitors were tested in animals, they caused birth defects, cancers and death. They were released to the general public anyway. If you are going to ignore animal studies, why conduct them? And do we know all we need to know about HIV pathogenesis to AIDS to even find a vaccine?

As PWAs we want a cure. As animal advocates we want compassion and common sense. As Jewish men we do not recommend human trials lightly. As gay men we do not want to witness another AZT holo-caust. This is why it is so important to tirelessly hold the research complex accountable. Where are they on the research complex accountable. Where are they on a vaccine, how much have they spent, how much do they plan to spend, and who, if not PWAs, sets the agenda, or is it merely set by the profit margin? This should be true even if you believe in animal testing. This bloated, repetitive, profit-driven research machine was built in the '80s and is accountable to no one. How many more of us are going to die in vaccine trials that are not well thought out, but allowed to continue because it showed "promise" in chimps, cats, pigs or rodents. Please, people, be careful. Do not join a vaccine study unless you know its mode of acjoin a vaccine study unless you know its mode of action in human

AIDS is a disease of opportunistic infections that are intracellular in nature. When talking about AIDS and animal tests, we should know, "Animal models remain poorly specific, and extrapolation of experimental data obtained in animals to humans is haz

mental data obtained in animals to humans is haz-ardous." (Maurin M. Raoult, D. Optimum Treatment of Intracellular Infection, *Drug*, July 1996) The establishment is quick to say animal advocates are the emotional lot; however, its willingness to use sick people as a smokescreen, but not feel accountable to those sick people, speaks volumes.

> Michael Bellefountaine Karl Goldman

Courageous arts criticism

[The following letter was sent to arts writer Gary Morris:

Morris:]
As a jaded journalism junkie, let me tell you that you rock my world! Not only are you an extremely talented writer, both sensitive and well-informed, but you're also a real person with a political and cultural clue, and unafraid to wield that intelligence for the common reader!

Common reader!

In your review of "Commodity Fetishes," you ably use your personal experience to make a point about the film—a technique most writers mangle with egotism and boring trivia. Rather than fixate on the perviness of the film, feeding readers empty voyeuristic thrills, you criticize the film's underpinnings – with-out indicting sadomasochism, a traditional target for lazy reviewers. While your representation of sex work is shallow – it's not all about money – you're not afraid to wield a radical anti-capitalist analysis in the criticism of art. Yay – it's about time! (But be more empathetic in your views of pro dommes and men who pay for sex in a society which commodifies everything - many of them are a part of sexual liber-

And congratulations on your caveat at the end of "Love Thyself" (your review of the "Salute to Masturbation" video screening) complaining that there were no black masturbators represented among the many video clips. Apparently this spurred Carol Queen & friends to action, because at the actual screening Thursday night (May 8), clips of black men and women – as well as Asians, Latinos, and others – were plentiful! Which is exactly the point of such

were plentiful! Which is exactly the point of such courageous arts criticism.

Thanks so much for inspiring me – I quit writing A&E journalism years ago because it felt like the same-old-thing over and over again, and because I felt that as a politically radical queer, even most gay papers wouldn't allow me to be honest about why I didn't like many films, etc.

PS Can you explain why the RAR is stuck in the

P.S. Can you explain why the B.A.R. is stuck in the last century and won't accept letters (or any other input) by e-mail or fax? Surely they can afford a fax machine or a \$20/month Internet account? As one with no faith in the U.S. Postal System, I find this extremely frustrating!

> Kiki Carr San Francisco

[Actually, we insist upon signed copies of letters to the editor because we have been faxed forged letters in the past. Call us old-fashioned, or worse, but the cur-rent system seems to be the best defense against the problem. 1

Dishonorable

[The following letter was sent to Mayor Willie

own, Jr.:]

How anyone could use the word/title "honorable"

How anyone could use the word/title "honorable" and Willie Brown in the same sentence is beyond me. In any event, let me get to the point. If you are so goddamned concerned about public health as it relates to monitoring sex clubs, then perhaps you could explain why no arrests or citations were made at Jack Davis' recent party. Isn't drinking blood and urine considered unsafe? I must conclude that if enough money is put into your pocket, then anything goes. One more point. I attended last Sunday's AIDS Candlelight March. The evening moved me to tears. However, your "performance" moved my bowels. From the leather hat to the theatrical inflection of your voice, your message came through loud and clear, You are a big phony!

clear, You are a big phony!
You have been watching too many Streisand

Bill Schilling San Francisco

The Maine event

Face east and squint from the top of Twin Peaks and you just may be able to make out big, broad smiles on the faces of my friends and family back in Maine. They're smiling because Maine's legislature, after ten grueling attempts in twenty years, has passed a gay/lesbian non-discrimination bill.

No longer can the sardine packer be legally fired from her job simply because she is a lesbian. No longer can the schoolteacher be legally denied an

rtment simply because he is gay.

With Independent Governor Angus King's bedged signature, Maine becomes only the eleventh state of our fifty to protect its people. With thirty-nine more states to go, let's hope the old saying, "As Maine goes, so goes the nation" rings true.

Robert E. Gordon San Francisco

Keep letters short, to the point, and legible. Mail them to the Bay Area Reporter at 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco CA 94103, and include a contact telephone number for verification (not publication)

A woman's place: in the statehouse

by Wayne Friday

hile political writers have made much this year over the fact that there are a record number of women in Congress (nine in the Senate, 53 in the House), most would agree that these numbers are still way out of line in favor of the men. However, little has been said or written, other than a story some weeks ago in the New York Times, about the gains women have made in state legislatures across the country in

the past few years.
In Washington, DC, even though the female members are at an all-time high, the numbers still break down to slightly over ten percent of the entire Congress. In Washington state, on the other hand, women now hold nearly half (22 of 49) the seats in the state Senate. Women, in fact, now hold four of every ten seats in Washington state's Legislature. While not as prevalent as in

Olympia, women in other state capitals are also doing well. For instance, in Arizona, Connecticut, Minnesota, Colorado, and Ver mont, women now hold three of every ten leg-islative seats. Other major states, such as New York, New Jersey, Michigan, and Illi-nois, have also **Our Man Friday**

marked increase in the number of women elected to their governing bodies. Political experts across the country believe that the gains at the legislative level represent a logical electoral acceptance of women, who have spent years working their way up the political ladder – from neighborhood board to school board to county board to the state level and ulti-mately to Washington, DC. In Sacramento, California's

120-member Assembly and state Senate now count a total of 26 women, including San Francisco's Carole Migden and Santa Mon-ica's Sheila Kuehl in leadership other demographic group, women legislators hold a wide range of views and thus do not always vote as a bloc, but female lawmakers have had a profound influence on legislation in some states. Their power can only instates. Their power can only in-crease as they assume more and more leadership posts at the state level and as Congress hands over more and more governmental responsibility to state governments, especially for welfare and other social service programs.

Many states now have women in their top legislative spots. Washington state has a female House majority leader, as do Connecticut, Arizona, Missouri, and four other states. In states across the country, women now head important legislative committees and not only those committees that traditionally deal with family

that traditionally deal with family issues, the legislative parking place for women in earlier years.

In California, in fact, women like Carole Migden head no less than 12 of the Assembly's 27 committees. While the proportion of females elected to state legislatures is still woefully inadequate, the progress of women in said legthe progress of women in said leg-islatures in the past 20 years is



Assemblywoman Carole Migden (I) with Sen. Barbara Boxer.

promising. Women now hold 1,593 of the nation's 7,424 state legislative seats, or 21.5 percent. This is more than double the state seats held in the early 1970s.

Interestingly, during the past 20 years, each election has raised the percentage of female legislators by pearly two points. If

male legislators by nearly two points. It should also be point-ed out that during this same 20-year period, the party break-down of female legisla-tors has re-mained about

Friday

mained about
60/40 Democratic/Republican, reflecting
perhaps a tendency of women to
view the Democratic Party as

wew the Democratic Party as more attuned to their concerns.

Besides state legislatures, women are continuing to make important gains in statewide-elected positions such as governor (currently only two: New Jersey and New Hampshire), lieutenant governor attuney energl etc. governor, attorney general, etc. Indeed, women now hold one out of every four state executive positions throughout the nation, and female mayors in major cities are on the rise.

What accounts for all this progress, at least below the congressional level? Politicos from both major parties claim that the numbers reflect a new openness and inclusiveness about women and women's issues within their organizations, and most would agree that, whether entirely true or not, such a change is certainly long overdue.

Politics and people

Some person who prefers to remain anonymous keeps calling me insisting that **Quentin Kopp** will rejoin the Democratic Party in hopes of running for state attorney general. "If he is successful in helping defeat Props. D and F, it's a sure thing," my shy source claims.

KRON-TV (Channel 4) will sponsor a one-hour debate on June 1, 8-9 p.m., between Kopp and Mayor Willie Brown on stadium/mall Props. D and F. Some think this could determine the outcome of the campaign, particularly if it is a close contest come

In Madison, Wisconsin last week, several hundred people rallied outside the state capitol building to protest a bill that would ban same-sex marriages. State Representative Tammy Baldwin, a lesbian, says she con-

siders the bill a personal assault. In Austin, Texas, Representa-tive **Glen Maxey**, the Lone Star state's only openly gay lawmaker, has directed his staff to come up with 500 amendments to a one page bill designed to keep the state from recognizing same-sex

marriages.
Meanwhile, Maine Governor
Angus King (D) last week signed
a gay rights bill into law that bans
discrimination in housing, credit, public accommodations and emloyment based on sexual orien-

Thanks to a Green Party candidate who garnered 17 percent of the vote, Republicans won a "safe" Democratic House seat in a spe-cial New Mexico election last week, making the current DC

House line-up: 228 Republicans, 206 Democrats, one Independent. Those attending an American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) benefit at the Cannes Film Festival last week reportedly raised over \$1 million for the cause. Actress Demi Moore stepped in and hosted for Elizabeth Taylor at Liz's request. La Taylor is still recovering from brain surgery. brain surgery.

The St. Petersburg Times last

week announced it will immediately begin offering health insurance coverage to permanent part-ners of gay and lesbian employees. In Florida? Does the multiply-bankrupt **Anita Bryant** know about this?

Democrats in Sacramento are Democrats in Sacramento are telling me that former Assemblyman (and ex-Sacto Mayor) Phil Isenberg will likely run for the 6th State Senate District seat there next year after incumbent Leroy Greene is "termed out."

In San Jose, Councilwoman Margie Fernandes is said to be the early favoriet to succeed out.

the early favorite to succeed outgoing Mayor Susan Hammer

next year.
Outgoing City Treasurer Mary Callanan, who will retire at the end of 1997 after 33 years in local government, will be sorely missed at SF's City Hall. Public officials don't come any nicer.

Dee Dee Myers, former

White House press secretary and CNN talk show host who recently

CNN talk show host who recently moved back to LA, was visiting friends here this past weekend.

My Quote of the Week is from former Supe Angela Alioto. During a recent interview with the San Jose Mercury News , she declared, "I want, with my heart and soul, to be mayor of San Francisco. God knows I tried I will try again." knows I tried. I will try again someday. It's in my blood." ▼





Jeffrey Charron

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Sheep thrills

by Beth Elliott

ho Put the Ram in the Rama Lamb-a Di-Rama Lamb-a Ding Dong? Dept.: Taking a break from the self-satirizing tendency reality has been manifest-ing of late turned out to be trickier than imagined. Surely a week-point-five's vacation in Texas would have offered restful, vanilla relaxation and adventures. Oh, sure, life in the Republic of implies weirdness of that peculiar Texan kind, but nothing to weave

lexan kind, but nothing to weave into a column. No, I expected to write about things like being on low-level cruise control at the Texas Star

Party, the annual week-long amateur astronomy blowout under West Texas' dark skies. After sight-seeing in San Antonio (River Walk and the Alamo, excuse me, "The Alamo Shrine of Texas Independence," where a very Hispanic-looking Daughters of the Texas Republic docent spoke about the Tejanos among the slaughtered defenders), it was hopping in '91 eclipse tour buddy Jay's van and off to the new TSP venue in the Texas Hill Country. I wasn't holding my breath for a little romance amidst

the telescopes but wouldn't be blind to any stray possibilities. Actually, I ended up really cu-rious about that substratum of subliminal attraction between

women in general we know is there. (I know it's there from the times I've picked up on it in individual cases and overestimated how close to the surface the

attraction might be.) You know, that freefloating, general goodwill and sense of a shared femaleness that's so emotionally refreshing out there in the wide world, especial-ly between traveler and local.

ly between traveler and local.
Not much came of my curiosity, partly because the weather didn't afford schmoozing under the stars. The first night (Sunday) was clear, but far too windy for telescope work. I wish they'd announced the Southern Sky Object Binocular Challenge at check-in instead of Monday; I might have won my pin for spotting deep sky objects had I known I should stay up after waking from a nap at one objects had I known I should stay up after waking from a nap at one to do a sky check. At just below 30 north, I did spot all of Scorpio standing upright in the sky, not just the pincers and stinger; it's quite a sight. Another night clouded up after an hour or so (great last close-up of Hale-Bopp), and that was that. So we read or wrote, and used the one nice day to tool around the Hill Country and in with barbacuset. Country, ending with barbecue at Toad's Road Kill Cafe in nearby Leakey. (And that's not the extent of the Texas weirdness – the old site was in Ft. Davis, where people hauling in obscure equipment in

vans might have given pause to the law officers staking out the Texas separatists.)

Or I could have gone on about my biannual fling Sapphistication with a friend in Houston, which usually occurs on one of

which usually occurs on one of her San Francisco vacation trips. Oh, it would have been quite top-ical writing about the aroma of Texas barbecue wafting from all the pores on our bodies as we sweated and sweltered on a hot sweated and sweltered on a not Gulf Coast night making The Sign of the Cross-Eyed Armadillo. I've already written about be-coming an aunt; "the Benjamin"

pie." (Oh sure, how could I go down there and not make barbecue runs?)

Weirdest stories

But noooooooo, I have to come home to the weirdest sto-ries. Like Fleishacker Zoo officials announcing it appears someone broke in and sexually assaulted a broke in and sexually assaulted a sheep. At least I was spared the ex-perience of reading about that in a Texas paper, complete with pre-dictable rude remarks about San Francisco. And I didn't see any stories about political consultant Jack Davis's birthday party, with its graduate level kinky entertain-ment for, well, not the handment for, well, not the hand-

This is a burden common to all minorities: every stupid individual being made to stand in for the group. It gets annoying and old.

was predictably darling. And if I was predictably darling. And if I ever add to his collection of children's songs on tape by sitting down with guitar myself, I now could write custom lyrics to "Midnight Special." The verse about "If you're ever down in Houston ..." I could end with: "And we'll all go out for barbecue/So you'd better keep an eye/Keep an eye on little Benjamin/Or he'll eat your pecan

consenting guest list the relevant etiquette would call for. Coverage of that would really have been predictable and dread-ful. It's hard to believe: Jack Davis is not a stupid man. Arguably ar-rogant and overreaching rogant and overreaching, col-league Wayne Friday's eloquent character reference notwithstanding. The buzz that annoyed me was the implication that somehow, just because Jack Davis is a prominent and powerful gay man, that his humdinger of a faux pas was somehow a lesbian/gay community matter or concern.
Excuse me, but I don't recall having authorized Mr. Davis as a spokesperson or representative in any way, shape, or form. His lack of discretion as to when and where such entertainment is ap-propriate for guests (and yes, there is a happy abundance of such times and places) should logically be understood as a personal matter. Or his own career matter. To get back to the sheep

theme, Davis may have "screwed the pooch." Actually, it was Chronicle sportswriter Glenn Dickey, work-ing on the 49er stadium measure angle, who noted that despite the angle, who noted that despite the mostly heterosexual nature of the entertainment, the media has tried to make it a gay story. "Because even the most tolerant have been appalled by the party," he wrote, "homophobia has been given a respectable cover."

The usually thoughtful Debra L Saunders went off on the tan-

J. Saunders went off on the tangent of bare breasts, etc. in the gent of bare breasts, etc. in the Freedom Day Parade, missing the obvious parallel with New Or-leans' Mardi Gras, where heterosexual males make great sport of encouraging equally drunk women to flash tit. I know this is a women to hash th. I know this is a burden common to all minorities: every stupid individual being made to stand for the group. Down in Texas, Jay and I and oth-ers could and did riff on trailer trash without this being con-strued as speak about all Euro-Americans. Still, it gets annoying

and old.

And from f'ing sheep the verb to f'ing sheep the noun: there was knee-jerk conservative letter-writer Thomas M. Edwards's oped page complaint about the 40th anniversary of Senator Joseph McCarthy's death going unnoticed. Guess that'll have to be next week. We should pay attention long enough to make sure he's still dead though \$\infty\$ dead, though. ▼



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Newsweek does its own gender limbo

by Don Romesburg, GLAAD/SF media resource center manager

ollowing on the heels of several other articles about intersex people in major newspapers, the May 19 Newsweek features "Gender Newsweek features "Gender Limbo," a discussion of the med-ical, political and personal debate ical, political and personal debate around surgically altering babies with "ambiguous" genitals. The article reflects the growing skepticism about the standard procedure of doctors imposing either a male or female genitalia and identity if an infant does not have a clear gender. Several intersex people who are advocating a reform of the system are inter-

the system are interviewed, including Kira Triea of Hermaphro-dites With Attitude and Cheryl Chase, director of the Intersex Society

of North America.

"Though [the advocates] lack political clout," author Geoffrey Cowley writes, "they're exposing flaws in a cherished medical doctrine. Most physicians say the operations are usually suc-cessful. Unfortunately, there is lit-tle if any research to back that as-sertion." Cowley also notes how recent the phenomenon is: "Intersexuals have been persecuted in some societies, revered in others. But until 40 years ago, no one gave much thought to 'fixing' them." Now, the article says, it has become so much the norm that become so much the norm that many adults who underwent such procedures are warning against the ways they and their families were treated, and the pressure that medical professionals exert on medical professionals exert on families nowadays to go through with the procedure. Chase "says she was not only denied information as a child but was lied to by doctors when she later tried to obtain her medical records." Finally, the article notes that "despite their sometimes angry rhetoric, the activists and their supporters have a fairly modest agenda. They want physicians to delay surgery until their patients can make some informed choices."

es."

The Newsweek article not only articulates the new movement of intersex people to challenge the assumption that such surgeries are needed, but also the larger context of the rights of people to make choices about their own destiny versus the power of so-called authorities. Cowley adds to an evolving body of work in the media on intersex issues, and the article will bring new pressure on article will bring new pressure on medical professionals to dialogue

with intersex people and allies.
Please commend Newsweek for tackling this complicated subject with sophistication and an appre-ciation for the very real people involved in the intersex struggle

Contact: Newsweek, 251 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019-1894, fax: (212) 445-4120, e-mail: letters@newsweek.com.

Two magazines look at 'spree killer''s sexual orientation

As media around the country continue to cover Andrew Cu-nanan as the primary suspect of a series of brutal murders, most

have focused on the killings them-selves as well as his life, but others selves as well as his life, but others have obsessed over his sexual orientation. The May 19 issues of both *Newsweek* and *Time* report on Cunanan, but while *Time* sticks primarily to the facts, *Newsweek's* article begins with voyeuristic details about his being an openly gay teenager. "At the Bishop's school in the posh San Diego suburb of La Jolla, Andrew Cunanan was regarded as way over the top. An openly gay teenager, he would whistle at the boys on the water polo team, and boys on the water polo team, and he once came to a school dance in a tight red jumpsuit with an older man as his date. The yearbook voted him 'Least Likely to Be For-

gotten.' Indeed. Last week Cunanan, a sus-pect in a string of murders, became the sub-ject of a nationwide manhunt." Additional-

ly, while the *Time* article identifies him as a "party boy," the subhead of the *Newsweek* article immediately identifies Cunanan as

head of the Newsweek article immediately identifies Cunanan as "a gay socialite."

While the Time article recognizes Cunanan's sexual orientation, it is placed in a reasonable context as simply another facet of his identity. The Newsweek article, on the other hand, by repeatedly fixating on his being gay, as well as leading off the story with seemingly irrelevant details about his high school years, seems to be trying to tie the murders specifically to his sexual orientation. In doing so, Newsweek not only does a disservice to gay people, but seems to imply that being openly gay, flamboyant and "least likely to be forgotten" in high school somehow foreshadowed the current state of affairs. It is as offensive and absurd as it would be to dwell on his Filipino ethnicity as a "reason" for killing.

killing.
Please write Newsweek at the address listed above, and let it know that the article is sensationalist and offensive- and that as an ostensibly "objective" news-magazine, the article's clear bias against gay people in general has no place in its pages.

Abby gets it right again

The ever-supportive Abagail Van Buren featured a letter by a young boy who has a gay dad in her May 13 "Dear Abby" column. The 11-year-old says, "The reason I am writing is for all the people who say bad things about my dad and me. It's usually not the kids at school, it's their parents and some school, it's their parents and some of my teachers. They ask me if it bothers me that I was adopted by bothers me that I was adopted by a gay man. It doesn't – only their questions bother me. I love my dad and he loves me." He also dispels a number of myths, including the possibility that having a gay parent can "make" someone gay. "His parents raised him to be straight, and he isn't. My dad was hore my and he can't change who straight, and he isn't. My dad was born gay, and he can't change who he is. He has never told me to like boys (or girls). He says when I am older, I will feel love for some-body, just like he loves John, just body, just like he loves John, just like my godmother loves her husband. Please print my letter so people will think twice before they say hurtful things to people like me. Just because my family is a little different doesn't mean I'm not happy." He signs, "Happily

Adopted in Orlando, Fla." Abby responds, "Thank you for your wonderful letter. There is an in-

wonderful letter. There is an incredible amount of wisdom in that 11-year-old head of yours."

Please let Abby know how much her support of happy families in all their forms is appreciated, and for publishing a letter that highlights how love- not the gender of the people involved- makes a family.

der of the people involved-makes a family. Contact: Dear Abby, Universal Press Syndicate, PO Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Women | Sport premiere issue illustrates homophobia

In the Spring 1997 issue of Women|Sport, Sports Illustrated's long-awaited woman athlete-oriented magazine, Olympic softball team member Dot Richardson describes her years of hurt and disappointment, caused by people's presumptions that as an ath-letic woman she must be a lesbian. As early as seventh grade, Richardson felt "crushed" when a friend called her a lesbian during an argument, "freaked" when a teammate came out to her in 10th grade, and later in college ran "sobbine" out of her room when sobbing" out of her room when another good friend who was gay asked Richardson to "consider her sexual views," which Richardson characterized as a sexual advance. Richardson states that the stereotyping of female athletes as les-bians "has been one of the biggest hindrances to the development of women in sports" because parents don't want "insinuations," so they keep their daughters off playing fields. While Richardson claims to

have moved beyond judging her lesbian teammate ("Wasn't she still a good ballplayer, a good teammate, a good person?"), her article stereotypes lesbians as women who "wanted to be article stereotypes lesbians as women who "wanted to be [boys]," denies lesbian sexuality as "not really sex," and calls being labeled a lesbian "poison." Richardson maintains that it's the possibility of being called a lesbian that keeps gifted women athletes from developing, not her and society's homophobia and discomfort with women who happen to love other women who happen to love other women and who challenge gender

stereotypes.
Write Women|Sport and tell
them that including an anti-lesthem that including an anti-res-bian article in their premier issue is a cowardly way of denying les-bians a level playing field in the arena of women's athletics. Contact: Sanra Bailey, Editor,

Women | Sport, Sports Illustrated, Time & Life Building, 1271 Av-enue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, fax: 212.522.4543, e-mail: letters*si@cis.com-puserve.com. ▼

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Fetish fantasies in cyberspace

by Heather Shirkey

ave you been a naughty child? Perhaps it's time for me to teach you a lesson or Although whips, chains and two. Although whips, chains and leather have gained the most popularity and infamy, they are not the only fetishes to be explored. Submit to a cyberjourney of all your fetishistic fantasies and fears. Your Web Mistress, Geek Grrtl, will whip you into shape, my cyberslave. Now, point your browser to http://www.sirius.com/~hezaa/har. ~hezaa/bar.

Let's start at the top of it all with "The Mustache Page." (http://www.ozemail.com.au/ ortummer/htmls/matm.html)
Facial hair reigns supreme on this
minimalist page. The site lacks a
lot of layering, so load time is
short, which is critical when a fast short, which is critical when a fast track to the good stuff is desired. And getting to the good stuff is exactly what you will do, as the site features a photographic collection of mustache-sporting men engaging in an interesting array of oral activities.

For those of you who prefer not to see the mustache, or even the face of your fetish partner, what better way to conceal it than with a well-crafted hood or gas mask? "The Rubber Fetish Site" (http://www.geocities.com//We sthollywood/6330/home.htm) stretches fetish beyond the limits. One can virtually experience the sensation of near-affixiation and sensation of near-amxiation and savor the feeling of tight-fitting rubber, clinging to your clammy skin. The site offers a peek at dis-turbingly powerful playwear, like polished black rubber unisuits and silver-clasped survival gear. Be sure to slink over to the other content areas, including: personals, rubber-related stories, slimy play (where rubber and glycerin meet), and a list of other hot sites. Now that you've got the look down, it's time to assume the po-

Don't get all choked up, my slave. It's only cyberspace: a place where the male bondage magazine Bound and Gagged (http://www.boundandgagged. **com**) can reach a whole new wired audience. This site is a spin-off of the primitive printed version, with a few extra electronic perks like the "Smut" section and an SM advice column titled "On the Ropes." The site does spend some time luring its guests into subscribing to the actual magazine, but the load time is quick, and the extras are still a treat.

Of course, it is critical that my little cribes was the right.

little cyberslaves have the right playmates, but who wants to spend time searching when you're tied up with other things? Well, if furry toys are your game, then get out of hibernation and visit the virtual den of "The Bears of San Francis-co." (http://www. **Geek Grrrl**

co." (http://www.q.com/ bosf) A Gee calendar of local events, a list of clubs, and a collection of the Bears of San Francisco member homepages populate the site. You can also link off to more fetishistic Web pages like "Chubnet" (Chubnet") tic Web pages, like "Chubnet" (http://www.chubnet.com/chub.htm) and the free "Find-a-Bear" personals (http://www.webpersonals.com/read/).

If fresh-faced and young is your thing, then beer crawl your way to fraternity row and party with the "Frat House Boys" (http: //www.frathouseboys.com) Get to know your playmates through bios and photos from their favorite extracurricular activities. The photos and stories from the boys are sure to please. Some frivolous fun with young and cute never hurt anyone!

Digital and pedal pushers

Perhaps you're looking for a playmate who can get to the bottom of it all? Come in and kick your shoes off because you've just entered the "Male Foot Fetish Homepage." (http://www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/4972) You'll be tickled by the never-ending collection of foot-fetish pho tos. Although the site structure includes frames that are not used efficiently, the load time is bearable for such an image-intensive site. Its focus alone on such a specialized fetish makes it a toe-tingling treat!

fetish makes it a toe-tingling treat!
Now I ask you, my little cyberslave, what's the fun in playing if
you don't have any toys?
Shop in the privacy of your
own cyberdungeon with "Faboo."
(http://www.faboo.com) The
collection ranges from traditional leather, to an array of toys for girls and boys, to a special kitsch collection. Browsing and shop-

ping are easy in this well-orga-nized, clean fetish toy store. Another cyber hotspot where you get geared up for your rau-cous recess is "Good Vibrations" (http://www.goodvibes.com/gy index.html). A San Francisco in-stitution, the Good Vibrations site allows you to ride the digital

allows you to ride the digital waves right into ecstasy with online browsing and shopping for toys, treats and the most appropriate reading material. And if passing your cred-it card number through cyber-space is a concern, you can order via

phone, fax, or mail. Rounding out our menage-a-trois of fetish shopping sites is a San Francisco leather favorite: "Mr. S" (http://www.mr-sleather-fetters.com/sex-bondage/cover.html). Although you can view and review the imagery to your heart's content, there is no online shopping. Perhaps they will be tortured into it at some point in the near future! In the meantime, you can order their lively 208-page catalog via fax or snail mail.

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Is there a monogamy gene?

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

you having a hard time finding a partner whose sexual interests exactly match yours? Who wants to do the same things as you want to do, at the times and places you want to do them? And who has the same commitment to monogamy as you have, or conversely, has the

same roving eye?

The fact is, every individual is sexually unique. Just characterizing people as male or female, gay

or straight, does no justice to the infinite diversity of sexual desire. You may comb the world for the ideal mate, but any sexual relationship between two real human beings is going to require some compromise, some give-and-take. How do biologists explain this diversity? Dean Hamer, the Na-

diversity! Dean Hamer, the National Cancer Institute scientist who in 1993 brought us the "gay gene," took a stab at answering this question at a recent conference on biology and sexuality held at Harvard University. The conference was organized by

queer student activists Jane Aceituno and Brian Altenburg. Hamer believes that many genes influence our feelings, per-sonality, and behavior, and that the assortment of genes we receive at conception helps give us each our unique sexuality. By way of example he focused on two genes

that, according to his own research, con-tribute to our sexual make-up in interesting ways.
One influences how frequently we like to engage in sex, while the other influences how many different partners like to have sex

Both the genes control the manufac-ture of molecules in-

volved in neurotransmission – the chemical communication be-tween brain cells that takes place at synapses. The gene that influences sexual frequency codes for a molecule that carries the neuro transmitter serotonin into brain cells – it's called the serotonin transporter. The gene that influences the preferred number of sexual partners codes for a receptor (or molecular target) for the neurotransmitter dopamine.

The serotonin transporter gene comes in two slightly different forms: a "long" form and a "short" form. Since people have two copies of each chromosome, any individual can have two short any individual can have two short genes, two long genes, or one of each. Hamer compared individu-als who had two short genes with those who had two long genes. He

found that individuals with two short genes like to have sex once a week or more frequently, while individuals with two long genes liked to have sex less than once a

The dopamine receptor gene
also comes in long and short
forms. Hamer reported that individuals with the long
form of the gene

are more inter-ested in having a variety of sex partners, and in per-forming unusual sexual acts with them, than are individuals with the short form And people with the long form, according to Hamer's data, are more likely to experi-ment with the "non-Queer Science

ment with the "non-preferred" sex: if they identify as heterosexual, they will try a gay fling from time to time, and if they identify as gay, they like an occasional dose of straight sex. In spite of this interest in sexual di-versity, individuals with the long form of the dopamine receptor gene do not desire to have sex any more frequently than those with the short form.

the short form.

Neither of these genes is exclusively concerned with sex. The dopamine receptor gene, for example, is believed to influence a general personality trait called "novelty-seeking" or "sensation-seeking" behavior. A desire for a variety of exput partners is simvariety of sexual partners is sim-ply the expression of that general novelty-seeking trait in the sexual

domain.

There are still more than 50,000 human genes that remain to be identified and studied. Many of these are likely to influence our mental life in one way or another. So the idea that each baby comes preloaded with a unique package of personality traits – an idea strongly held by many parents – is likely to be strengthened by future genetic discoveries.

genetic discoveries.

But no-one – least of all Dean
Hamer – is saying that genes are
the whole story of human diversity, either in the sexual domain or
in any other aspect of our lives.
Genes may predispose us to certain desires and certain behaviors,
but the fine outcome of individing tain desires and certain behaviors, but the final outcome of individual development depends also on the environment in which those genes are expressed. At the Harvard conference, William Byne, a perennial critic of simplistic biological theories of sexuality, illustrated this point with drawings of plant seedlings grown at different altitudes: at sea level, plant A might grow taller than plant B, because of genetic differences between them, but transplant both plants to the mountains and plant plants to the mountains and plant B might grow taller than A. Genes influencing human sexuality, Byne argued, might likewise have different effects depending on the circumstances a person grows up in. It will be a long and difficult quest to understand how genes interact with each other and with the environment to create sexually unique human beings.

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of The Sexual Brain, City of Friends (with Elisabeth Nonas), Queer Science (MIT Press, 1996), and the novel Albrick's Gold (Richard Kasak Books, 1997). He is also a co-founder of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. He can be reached care of this publication or at SLeVay@aol.com.

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Gay activists for clone rights

from the NOGLSTP

group of gay activists see the new breakthroughs in animal cloning technology the new breakthroughs in animal cloning technology as a path toward same-sex reproduction. Ann Northrop, a columnist for LGNY, a New York gay newspaper, says the possibility of human cloning is interesting to gay men and lesbians because "in a time when we're afraid that discovery of a genetic basis [for homosexuality] would lead to people aborting us, cloning would be a way of surviving." And "this has the potential of giving women complete control over reproduction... a stunning possibility that could, carried to its logical extreme, eliminate men altogether."

Randolfe Wicker, a New York businessman, founded the Clone Rights United Front after reports of the successful cloning of a lamb from an adult sheep. About 15 members of the group demonstrated in Greenwich Village to protest a proposed bill that would make human cloning a felony in

strated in Greenwich Village to protest a proposed bill that would make human cloning a felony in New York. "We're fighting for research," Wicker says, "and we're defending people's reproductive rights...! realize my clone would be my identical twin, and my identical twin has a right to be born."

Not all gay men and lesbians agree. "The gay community is a diverse community," says Kim Mills of the Human Rights Campaign, a gay civil rights group that hasn't taken a position on cloning. "There are many different voices." The issue is being debated on the Internet, where a forum on a

gay electronic magazine's website, http://gaytoday.badpuppy.com, is devoted to it.

"There is no consensus in favor of human cloning," says website editor Jack Nichols, but website editor Jack Nichols, but "it's building in that direction. It's new to all of us. It's like jumping in the air into chaos. If we don't close our minds, I'm sure we'll land safely."

Meanwhile, a number of lead-ing scientists and ethicists testified ing scientists and ethics of con-at a congressional hearing on rea-sons why human cloning should not be pursued. However, tech-nology subcommittee chairnology subcommittee chair-woman Constance Morella (R-MD) cautioned against rushing to pass a cloning ban into law, considering potential benefits from animal cloning research.

"We must be careful not to

"We must be careful not to outlaw or restrict potentially positive scientific developments with overly prescriptive legislation aimed at aspects of cloning which we do not support or condone, such as human cloning," Morella said. \(\neq \)

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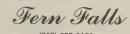








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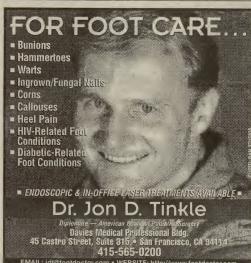
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SATISFIED





Two new studies add to medical pot debate

by Liz Highleyman

wo recently released studies add fuel to the debate over the safety and effectiveness of medical marijuana. The drug is been used as a therapy for AIDS-related appetite loss and wasting, chemotherapy-induced nausea, glaucoma, pain, and certain spas-tic disorders.

The first study, conducted by

researchers affiliated with Kaise Permanent health plan, found that smoking marijuana – in this case for recreational purposes – was not associated with an increased risk of death. In this study, report-ed in the May 14th issue of the American Journal of Public Health, Dr. Stephen Sidney and colleagues examined ten years' worth of mortality data for over 65,000 Bay Area health plan members, making it one of the largest marijuana studies ever undertaken

For both women and men, the death rate of marijuana users was similar to that of cigarette smokers. Women who smoked marijuana had a lower death rate than women who drank alcohol, but in men the death rate was higher among marijuana smokers than

among alcohol drinkers.

The study found that smoking

increase in AIDS-related deaths, but the researchers attributed this to confounding factors, since the death rate among non-mariju na-smoking people with AIDS

was similar.
Follow-up research is underway to determine whether mari-juana use is associated with non-fatal health problems such as respiratory illness. The researchers did note that marijuana use is associated with impaired driving ability and may lead to psycho-logical dependence.

Sidney and colleagues stated that while marijuana use itself is not associated with death, the not associated with death, the criminalization of the drug may be a "health hazard," since it may expose users to violence. They suggest that medical guidelines regarding the prudent use of the marijuana should be established, and recommend further research on the medicinal use of the drug. on the medicinal use of the drug, given the "reasonable evidence" for its medical effectiveness.

Anti-drug think tank study

In contrast, the second study, conducted by Dr. Eric Voth and Dr. Richard Schwartz, found that whole smoked marijuana was not an effective therapy. This study was a review of past research on medicinal marijuana usage. The doctors are affiliated with the International Drug Strategy Insti-tute, an anti-drug think tank. The study was published in the May 14th issue of the Annals of Inter-

nal Medicine.

Voth and Schwartz compared whole smoked marijuana to dron-abinol (brand name Marinol), an oral formulation of THC, the major psychoactive component of cannabis. The researchers concluded that evidence does not favor the use of smoked marijuana, and found that the oral THC derivative

was more effective in treating nau-sea and stimulating appetite.

Many patients and physicians prefer smoked marijuana to oral THC because it is easier to control the dosage and because side effects may be milder. Voth and Schwartz concluded that neither smoked marijuana nor oral THC can be considered beneficial when side effects – including intoxica-tion – are taken into account. The Voth and Schwartz find-

ings are in conflict with those of several past studies. The federal government announced this winter that it would allocate a million dollars to conduct a comprehensive review of medical marijuana research. ▼

Clinton

■ page 1

in ten years." But he believes "a challenge is the right way to put it. We didn't want to trivialize it."

The science

Clinton's analogy to the moon project may be a good sound bite, but it is not an accurate comparison. In that instance we already possessed the scientific and mechanical knowledge necessary to accomplish the task. Kennedy's challenge was to summon the po-litical and economic will of the nation to do so.

Developing an AIDS vaccine is quite different, for we are taking a leap of discovery, not one of im-plementation. The uncertainty is apparent in the handful of radically different approaches researchers are taking as to where and how to intervene to prevent infection. It indicates how little consensus there is, and how much basic study of HIV remains to be done.

There are six known strains of HIV, and the highly unstable virus is constantly mutating, creating variations within each strain. This is the varied, evolving foe a vaccine must protect against. Right now we simply don't know how a vaccine can work under those conditions. It has led some scientists to fear it is impossible. It has led many pharmaceutical compa-nies to drop their efforts towards

developing a vaccine, as they see foresee no profit coming from their investment. Then there is the slippery slope of definition: How does one de-fine "success?" The model most Americans know is that of the polio vaccine, where children are inoculated, protection is 99.9 per-cent effective, and side effects are

Some researchers believe that vaccines currently in development may offer 30 percent protection for HIV. That is clearly not acceptable in the United States, where the prevalence of the virus is relative low (1 million people in a population of 270 million), the ability to reduce new infections is relatively easy and inexpensive, and the current standard of protection for vaccines is very high.
But a vaccine of such limited

effectiveness might be acceptable in Third World countries where HIV infects close to half the population and sheer poverty pre-cludes massive spending on healthcare. From a strictly public health perspective, such a vaccine might save literally thousands of lives and begin to limit the spread of the epidemic. talk. ... It's an easy promise. He's just switching NIH funds from Column A to Column B – what I call Chinese restaurant account-

call Chinese restaurant accounting."

"Show me the money," said Steve Michael with ACT UP/Washington. He echoed the sentiment expressed more diplomatically by every other AIDS organization. There is an underlying fear that increased funding for vaccine research might come at the expense of funding for re-search on treatment and for care

for those already infected.

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) applauded the initiative and called on the president to

Long-term consequences include the possibility that a vaccine could result in infection with HIV, not protection from it.

There is also the dilemma of not knowing the long-term con-sequences of such a vaccine. They include the very real possibility that it could result in the infection of individuals with HIV, not their protection from it.

Researchers and the Advisory

Council suggested creation of a body to look at the moral, ethical, and legal questions embedded in a possible vaccine for HIV. The President has yet to move on that

Reactions

Well-known AIDS researcher Dr. Robert Gallo questioned the extent of Clinton's commitment. He told *USA Today*, "If you really wanted a crash program, you'd have to have five or six centers focusing on nothing else."

The advance creative plays

The always acerbic play-wright/activist Larry Kramer told the Washington Post that the president's speech was "more cheap

support a supplemental appropri-ation now before Congress that would add \$68 million for AIDS Drug Assistance Programs
(ADAP). The White House has
not publicly indicated its support
of that effort.
Meanwhile, Clinton continues

Meanwhile, Clinton continues to refuse to do things that can be done right now to prevent new infections in this country. They include lifting the federal funding ban on needle exchange programs and more effective prevention efforts.

forts.

It is statistically likely that some of the graduating seniors and their family members in the audience listening to his speech could have been spared their HIV infection had the president implemented those changes at the start of his administration. Instead, four years later, we have a vaccine initiative that may have an impact, in other countries, many years from now.

Debate over women's studies at SFSU

Lesbian staff may be without courses

by Cynthia Laird

he women's studies depart-ment at San Francisco State University (SFSU) is undergoing some changes in an effort to get another tenure-track professor that may leave some openly les-bian lecturers without courses this fall. While some argue that the move is being made to get rid of lesbian focus courses in the department, Nancy McDermid, Dean of the College of Humanities, told the B.A.R. the issue is really one of adding another tenure-track professor who can teach graduate level courses.

graduate level courses.

Lecturers, several of whom are lesbian, are temporary employees, McDermid said, with their work dependent on the budget and enrollment. In recent years, the lecturers have had work in part because one or more of the tenured professors in the department have been on leave, meaning the money for their salaries can shift to the lecturers.

money for their salaries can shift to the lecturers.

"The tenured people in women's studies kept going on leave," said McDermid. "It was misleading. Other departments were slashing lecturers."

Lesbian lecturer Merle Woodisagreed with McDermid's statement that there will be a lesbian focus class taught through the women's studies department this

women's studies department this fall; the lesbians in literature class is cross-listed in both human sex-

actioss-instead in both human sex-uality and the women's studies departments.

"That's just not true," Woo told the B.A.R. "Human sexuality is paying for it."

Countered McDermid, "In the past, there have probably been



Merle Woo: "We've started a campaign to get people to call and write."

only two courses that have the word lesbian in the title. Lesbianism and sexuality remains a strong emphasis in the curricu-

Credibility

McDermid said that historically, the women's studies department was built on lecturers. Over the years, however, the women's studies department became part of the institution. "If we wanted credibility, we had to begin thinking of one to two tenure-track positions."

That number has now grown to five, although one will just be teaching one semester, McDermid

Woo and McDermid agreed that the state budget cuts in 1992 are what led to the current dispute. Woo maintains that the budget cuts "perpetuated a trend of getting rid of lecturers," and that lecturers have been eliminated from the decision-making

rocess.

Inderpal Grewal, women's studies department chair, declined to talk with the B.A.R., but McDermid defended her, saying she is committed to the depart-ment and extending the focus of women's studies to include inter-

women's studies to include international perspectives.
Woo said that although she will be teaching the lesbians in literature course that's cross-listed in the human sexuality department, if she doesn't get another course to teach, she'll lose her benefits. "We've started a campaign to get people to call and paign to get people to call and write," Woo said, adding that they

have union support, too.

"My classes have been full in
19 years of teaching there. Now, I may be fired without pension, so-cial security, or health insurance," she said.

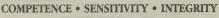
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Local PBS to show documentary on **lesbians in Vietnam**

by Dennis Conkin

QED-TV will air Their Own Vietnam, lesbian filmmaker Nancy Kates's award-winning short documenaward-winning short documentary on the experiences of five American women during the Vietnam era conflict – including a lesbian couple who met during the war and are still partners – this Sunday, May 25 at 9 p.m. and Monday at 7:30 p.m.

The 23-minute 16-millimeter film documentary has received a variety of awards, including a 1995 Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Student Academy Award in Documentary (Gold

my Award in Documentary (Gold Medal), and was screened at the 1996 Sundance Film Festival. The documentary was also Kates's 1995 thesis for a Master's Degree in Communications from Stanford University.

The film explores the day-to-

day impact of the Vietnam War on five women, and interpolates on the women, and meropates interviews with the women with rare archival footage from the Vietnam era, including home movies and still photography, plus footage shot in Washington, DC on Veteran's Day 1993, when the Vietnam Women's Memorial was dedicated.

dedicated.

The women's moving and often harrowing stories are juxtaposed with Department of Defense footage promoting Vietnam service as "an exciting and fun career opportunity for women."

'They needed the bodies'

Their Own Vietnam includes a groundbreaking interview with Sue Storm and Kay Milliken, a lesbian couple who met as nurses during the war and are still together, and is the first discussion of lesbian/gay issues in any documentary about the war, according to Kates. Although there are no official

statistics, Kates says she believes that between 20 and 25 percent of the servicemembers in Vietnam

were gay or lesbian.
"The military doesn't really know. The military really didn't care, because basically they needed the bodies," she told the *Bay*

Area Reporter.

Kates, who has a background in journalism, has produced five short documentaries, including short documentaries, including Joining the Tribe, Married People, Going to Extremes, and Castro Cowboy, a short documentary about the late Christen Haren, who died of AIDS last year. During his career, Haren was a model for the Marlboro Man.

Their Own Vietnam features existing heavier by Michael Lande

original music by Michael Lande and traditional Vietnamese film music collected by ethnomusicol-ogist Dr. Phong Thuyet Ngyuen of Ohio's Kent State University.

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Intuition plays a role in a landlord's decision-making process, but it is very important to follow up on your intuition by checking the facts. Ask prospective tenants to fill out an application that includes employment references and the name, address and phone numbers of previous landlords. The application should also include written permission for you to run a credit check. In most areas it is difficult and expensive to evict someone who turns out to be less than a model tenants to it is wise not to allow tenants to move in before checking their references and credit history.

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Gay law student receives scholarship

by Cynthia Laird

penly gay law student Timothy Critzer has been named the winner of the 1996-97 Michael A. Zamperini/W. Clay Burchell Scholarship, designed to benefit gay and les-bian law students. Critzer is a fourth year law student at Gold-en Gate University School of Law in San Francisco

The scholarship was established four years ago with a \$15,000 gift to the law school by Michael Zamperini, a professor of law and director of writing and research at Golden Gate, and his partner, Clay Burchell, formerly an employee with the fed-

eral government.

The scholarship is given annually to a gay or lesbian law stu-dent in his or her final year of law school. It is awarded based on overall academic achievement and academic performance in the legal writing and research cours-

Critzer, who will graduate this month, received his bachelor's of business administration degree in accounting from Kent State University in 1988. In 1993, he

Auto Body

Repair

moved to the city to attend law school. During his first year, Critzer became treasurer of the campus group LEGALS (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Law Students).

Zamperini was credited by Critzer with "helping me gain a strong perspective of where law school stood in my life. "thad financial problems, so

getting through law school took me four years instead of the usual three," Critzer said. "This schol-arship made a big difference to

Currently, Critzer works for the U.S. Department of Labor's Pension and Welfare Benefit Administration, helping to ensure companies are in compliance with employee benefit and pension regulations.

The law school welcomes contributions to the scholarship endowment.
Donations can be sent to:
Zamperini/Burchell Scholarship, Golden Gate University School of Law, 536 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. For more information, call Susan Worth at (415) 442-7829

Paint Shop



Timothy Critzer (center), with Michael Zamperini and W. Clay Burchell.

ALRP welcomes new East Bay outreach attorney

by Cynthia Laird

rma L. Moreno has joined the AIDS Legal Referral Panel (ALRP) as its new East Bay outreach attorney. In this capacity, Moreno will bring ALRP's critical legal help to people living with HIV in Alameda and Contra

Costa counties.

ALRP has dramatically expanded its East Bay outreach over the last year because of a grant from United Way's Community Impact Fund, said Ron Hypolite,

ALRP's client services director.
Moreno, a bilingual Oakland
native, has four years of experience as a staff attorney at the Legal
Aid Society of Alameda County. She also brings with her an exper-tise in family law and experience serving indigent and low-income

clients.
"We are very pleased that Irma
has joined our staff," Hypolite
said. "With Ms. Moreno's presence, ALRP promises unprecedented access to legal help for people with HIV/AIDS in the East

Bay, especially those who have tra-ditionally been underserved in this epidemic."

ALRP's programs address the urgent legal needs of people living with HIV/AIDS, including: insurwith HIV/HIDs, including: insur-ance, wills, powers of attorney, disability benefits, employment, housing, and child guardianship. Moreno will provide legal services at AIDS Project of the East Bay in at AIDS Project of the East Bay in Oakland three days a week. In addition to this drop-in service, she will also hold legal clinics at the Tranquilium Center in Richmond, Valley AIDS Project in Pleasanton, and Tri-City Health Centers in Fremont and Hayward.

Hypolite said that in the last ten years, ALRP and its network of volunteer attorneys have assisted nearly 4,000 people living with HIV in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. ▼

East Bay residents needing legal help can reach ALRP at (510) 451-5353. For services in San Francisco, call (415) 291-5454.

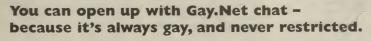


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Miller to announce Sec'y of State candidacy again

by Marghe Covino

ormer Acting CaliforniaSecretary of State Tony Miller disclosed in an exclusive interview with Bay Area Re-porter this week that he is ready to formally announce his candidacy for the office of Secretary of State of California.

The announcement will be made at a press reception at Miller's temporary headquarters on Sacramento's K Street Wednesday, May 28. It will be hosted by Miller's campaign chair, former Secretary of State, Ambassador

March Fong Eu.

Miller, who ran as the first openly gay statewide candidate in openy gay statewise candidate in 1994, has been the moving force behind Proposition 206 for cam-paign finance reform in the state. "It's shameful that campaign fi-nance information is not yet available on the Internet," Miller available on the internet, while said. "Having that information available to the public is way overdue." Miller said he intends to carry out the will of the public as expressed in the campaign reform initiative in the last election.

In rapid-fire sentences he outlined a number of issues that he

will address in his campaign.
"I want to remove the barriers to voting," he said. "We need election reform. We have to make vot-ing by mail, voting on weekends, and Voting Day registration available, and it will be up to me as the Chief Elections Officer in the State of California to implement

Miller also said that upgrading the Secretary of State's office policies and procedures, and reform of the initiative process are on his agenda. "We simply need to do a lot more to make the process more accessible to people," he

But for right now, Miller told the B.A.R., he's concentrating on setting up his campaign and on fundraising, and is looking forward to meeting the press to offi-cially announce his candidacy at the kick-off reception next Wednesday evening.



Supe's gay staffer **leaves City Hall**

by Cynthia Laird

ill Ambrunn, an openly gay legislative aide for Latina lesbian San Francisco Su-pervisor Susan Leal, has resigned and will most likely look for work in the private sector. Ambrunn's departure was amicable, and he told the B.A.R. that he and Leal

told the B.A.R. that he and Leal continue to talk frequently about various topics.

Leal, who announced last month that she's running for City Treasurer in November, commended Ambrunn for over two years of working for her.

"I've been very lucky and have had two very, very good people," Leal said of Ambrunn and former aide Bevin Dufty, who preceded

aide Bevin Dufty, who preceded Ambrunn and worked nearly two years for the supervisor. "They are both good staff people."

Dufty now works in Mayor Willie Brown's office.

Two years is a long time, in board parlance, for staffers, Leal told the B.A.R. "The average tenure of staff members is nine or ten months."

ten months."

During his employment, which started in late 1994, Ambrunn picked up a number of projects that Dufty worked on with Leal. Perhaps the most successful of those is the supervisor's red light camera program, Ambrunn said. He worked closely with Leal and other supervisors as with Leal and other supervisors as the legislation wound its way

through the board.

In the gay community, Ambrunn said that one of the things that has impressed him with Leal is her insistence on inclusion, par-



Leaving Leal: Former aide Bill Ambrunn is moving on.

ticularly for gay people of color. That was evident in early meetings of the Community Center Project, and it continues to be evident in the number of gays and lesbians of color Leal has appointed to various boards and commis-

sions over the years.

Ambrunn, a lawyer who used to practice with Supervisor Leslie Katz and also worked in the San Mateo County Counsel's office for several years, said he plans to take a much-needed break from local government before pursuing a job in the private sector.

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Corrections

In last week's story about an anti-gay comment scrawled by a student on a candidate evaluation form at the San Francisco State University School of Social Work, the *Bay Area Reporter* incorrectly ly stated the comment.

ly stated the comment.

The comment on the evaluation form for a candidate applying for the post of director of the school was not, "You have to be a fucking faggot to get a job here?" but, "Does a candidate have to be gay to get a job here?"

Also, in the story about fugitive murder suspect Andrew Cunanan, we incorrectly spelled Chisago County, Minnesota as Chicago County. We apologize to the readers and to the writer, Roman Jimenez of Update. ▼

HRC lesbian and gay advisory committee votes on Gender Identity Disorder

by Liz Highleyman

t the May 20 meeting of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, t the May 20 meeting of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Advisory Committee (LGBTAC) to the Human Rights Commission (HRC), members voted to adopt the report of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning (LGBTQQ) Youth Task Force, after a change in wording addressed community concerns about the use of the Gender Identity Disorder (GID) Gender Identity Disorder (GID) diagnosis in children. Among the findings included

in the original report was one which read, "The psychiatric profession abuses LGBTQQ youth through the diagnosis of Gender Identity Disorder. Since homosexuality was removed from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual as agnistic and statistical manual as a pathology, mental health profes-sionals have turned to Gender Identity Disorder to pathologize and institutionalize LGBTQQ youth"

Some members of the queer community claim that the GID diagnosis is used to nonconsensually impose therapies that attempt to change the identity of youth who do not conform to heterosexuality and traditional gender roles. They want to see GID removed from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM), the compendium of recognized psy-

chiatric disorders.
Others assert that a GID diagnosis is the only means by which many young transgendered people can access therapies such as hormones and sex reassignment surgery (SRS), and want to retain the diagnosis. Attendees at Tues-day's meeting heard impassioned testimony from both sides of the controversy.

Shannon Minter stated that queer youth are often forced to undergo treatment to "modify cross-gender behavior." There are no official statistics regarding the use of the GID diagnosis, but Minter is familiar with 12 cases. Usually, youth are admitted to institutions with multiple diagnoses including suicidality, de-Shannon Minter stated that noses, including suicidality, de-pression, and substance abuse. Minter opposes forced treatment, but favors maintaining the diag-nosis as the only route for many older transgender youth to obtain

Minter proposed substitute wording for the report which omits language that only focuses on the abuse potential of GID. Minter also suggested adding another finding that emphasizes the

other finding that emphasizes the lack of services for transgender youth. Minter proposed two reworded recommendations.

The first "mandates education about the health and mental health issues of transgender youth" for healthcare providers receiving city funds including ed. receiving city funds, including ed-

ucation about the misuse of the GID diagnosis. It also recom-mends that providers should "limit the diagnosis of GID to self-identified transgendered and transsexual adults, and transgendered and transsexual youth who are unable to receive hormone therapy and/or SRS without the

diagnosis."
The original wording had limited GID-related funding to trans-sexual adults only. The second recommendation is to fund health recommendation is to thin health services for transpendered and transsexual youth, and to spend no city funds on "mental health treatments or programs which use GID or any other diagnosis to administer involuntary or un-wanted counseling, psychiatric medication, behavior modification, or other mental health treat-ments designed to change or maments designed to change or ma-nipulate a youth's actual or per-ceived homosexuality, bisexuality, transsexualism or transgen-derism." The original wording recommended not spending city funds on any program which uses a GID diagnosis to treat homo-sexuality, bisexuality, or transgen-derism. derism.

Proof of diagnosis

Daphne Scholinski related her experience being "locked up" for four years at the age of 15 because of a "failure to identify as a sexual female." Scholinski presented her medical records to show that GID

was indeed listed as her diagnosis; some GID proponents have de-nied that GID is ever used as a basis of forced psychiatric treat-

Lynn also experienced forced institutionalization for gender non-conformity. She was sent to a hospital in Utah, where she unhospital in Utah, where she un-derwent six months of aversion therapy. Her forced 'treatment' consisted of learning about make-up and hair styling and how to re-late to boys. She says she was di-agnosed with GID "because I'm gay and had a relationship with a girl." She stated that half of her girl." She stated that had gay fellow patients were also gay

youth.
Vicky Campbell noted that while some psychiatrists may indeed use the diagnosis inappropriately, the DSM clearly states that forced treatment is an inappropriate use of GID. She stated that some in the gay and lesbian community "love to pretend that there is a such thing as condition." there is no such thing as gender dysphoria," seeing it as simply a "kinky lifestyle." She stated that on the issue of transgenderism, the queer community can be "just as clueless" as anyone else.

Campbell pointed out that the Tom Waddell Clinic, which has one of the most well-regarded transgender programs in the country, "uses the diagnosis all the time" to allow for MediCal coverage, and concluded that if she had not received hormones

thanks to a GID diagnosis at the age of 19, she "would not have lived to 20."

Camille Maran asserted that

Camille Maran asserted that the GID diagnosis in children is nothing more than "homophobia and genocide against queer chil-dren and gay people." She told the Bay Area Reporter that "boys have a human right to be their natural-ly feminine selves," and said that GID was "all about misogyny and homophobia". homophobia."

The final public comment was

given by Christine Tayleur, who asserted that hospitalization on the basis of GID is "extremely rare." Based on years of working in the field and reviewing charts, Tayleur said that the abuse of the GID diagnosis "isn't happening." If psychiatric abuse occurs, it is If psychiatric abuse occurs, it is necessary to deal with the abuse, not blame the diagnosis. Tayleur "strongly protested" an attempt by the committee to adopt the report, stating repeatedly that "the HRC has no business defining clinical practice." When she refused to yield the floor, Tayleur was removed by security, the first time the committee has had to resort to this measure. sort to this measure

Following public comment, committee members decided by consensus to adopt the task force report with Minter's substitute language. The report will now go before the Health Commission to be discussed at its June 12 meet-

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Performance, forum kick off Pride Month

by Dennis Conkin

wo important issues facing the lesbian and gay community – age and religion – will be the subject of a performance and a forum that kick off Pride Month activities, according to organizer Paul VanDeCarr.

Passing The Torch, a performance by queer youth, seniors, and children of lesbians and gays, will feature readers from Mothertongue Feminist Readers Theatre, Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC), and Children of Lesbians and Gays (COLAGE). The reading at New College Theatre, located at 777 Valencia Street, is scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday, May 31.

valencia street, is scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday, May 31.

"There will also be a special short film screening. The performance will be audiotaped, combined with writing by poet Adrienne Rich, and then reproduced and sold as a benefit for sponsoring organizations." VanDeCart said.

enne Rich, and then reproduced and sold as a benefit for sponsoring organizations," VanDeCarr said.

Losing My Religion will bring together members of clergy of various faiths to discuss the limitations, possibilities, and role of religion in the queer community.

Speakers at the forum include

Speakers at the forum include The Reverend Jim Mitulski of Metropolitian Community Church in San Francisco, Rabbi Allen Bennett of Alameda's Temple Israel, Otis Charles of Oasis, a lesbian and gay Episcopal group, The Reverend Yvette Flunder of City of Refuge United Church of Christ, and Janice Mirikitani of Glide Memorial Methodist Church

The forum is scheduled for Sunday, June 1 at 3 p.m. at the New College Theatre, located at 777 Valencia Street.

Both events cost \$5, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. ▼

For more information, contact Telling The Story organizer Paul VanDeCarr at (415) 621-6347.

Sex regs

◆ page 3

efforts must "influence people so that they will decide for themselves to be safe." He lauded bathhouses with private spaces as places where gay men can "create intimacy," whereas group environs "make us behave like animals." Dana Van Gorder, the DPH liaison to the queer community, said that although he believes sex clubs "can play an important role in HIV prevention," they can also "play a destructive role." He does not believe that sex clubs are "sacred institutions" that create intimacy, and thinks the community must build other institutions to serve that purpose. Saying that he speaks for many gay men who will not speak out themselves for fearing of being branded as "traitors to their community," Van Gorder stated that he finds the current arrangement codified in the DPH regulations to be "a reasonable and responsible gesture to the realities of this epidemic."

This meeting was the first in which members of the Health

This meeting was the first in which members of the Health Commission publicly stated their opinion on sex club regulation. Commissioner Roma Guy said she "didn't see how we can build a consensus for unregulated bathhouses," although she was willing to continue to work with the community on the issue. Commissioner Ron Hill agreed with Guy, stating that he supported the DPH guidelines.

Katz on selective enforcement

In response to a question from the committee, AIDS Office director Dr. Mitch Katz spoke to the issue of selective enforcement. The DPH has been accused of enforcing the regulations only against gay sex clubs; an earlier list of establishments to be inspected included ten that cater to gay men and one that caters to a mixed heterosexual/ bisexual/ transgender clientele. In fact, the absence of heterosexual establishments on the list is more a reflection of the lack of straight sex clubs than an indication of a biased DPH policy. A look at the Spectator, an adult newspaper catering to heterosexuals, reveals a couple of swing clubs outside the city limits, but no sex clubs along the lines of Eros or Blow Buddies. Noting that "there have been such clubs at times, although they have not been widely frequented," Katz stated that the DPH policy does not make distinctions based on the gender or orientation of a club's clientele, and would be enforced against all relevant establishments equally.

lishments equally.

Katz went on to clarify confusion regarding venues such as hot tub facilities, saunas, and massage parlors. While acknowledging that sex does in fact occur in these places, Katz said that the DPH regulations only apply to public estable.

•

lishments were sex is legally permitted, that is, self-identified sex clubs. Massage parlors and strip clubs are regulated under "much more stringent" police codes. Katz stated that the DPH "is not in a position to regulate sex that the government has ruled illegal."

Following the invited speakers

Following the invited speakers and public comment, committee members engaged in a lengthy and passionate discussion, with many noting their uncertainty and discomfort regarding the issue. Virginia Benavidez stated that guidelines were necessary because "just one [new HIV infection] is too many." Judith Stevenson also spoke in favor of regulations, claiming that it is the right and responsibility of government to regulate businesses to ensure that they are safe, and that exceptions can't be made "because we're gay or because it's about sex."

gay or because it's about sex."
Robert Bray said that while he respects the opinion of the DPH, "on a personal level, alarms go off around the issue of policing public sex." He expressed the need for more opportunities for men to learn to negotiate safer sex, not "negative messages that I'm not capable of doing it." Shadow Morton stated that it was hard to be respected as a metamorph man in a non-private group sex environment. When bathhouses opened, he said, "a lot of gay men were no longer getting bashed in parks." Noting that historically queers have been subject to more regulations that others, Morton expressed his fear that "placing more restrictions on ourselves will lead to more dangerous behavior." William Bland echoed fears that without private spaces in clubs or bathhouses, people will go where

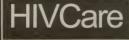
William Bland echoed fears that without private spaces in clubs or bathhouses, people will go where they are more vulnerable.

Rachel Timoner stated that "regulations that police and criminalize sex, especially gay sex, deeply disturb me." Noting that the full diversity of the community has not been heard to date, Kiki Whitlock expressed her hope that dialogue on the issue would continue.

The votes

Committee members first voted on a resolution to request the Health Commission to ask that DPH hold public hearings on the sex club issue before continuing to implement the Minimum Standards. After this proposal failed on a 7 to 9 vote, Bray put forth a second resolution, this one requesting that the Health Commission "call on DPH to protect privacy and civil liberties by deleting government-enforced monitoring and allowing for private spaces in sex clubs." After some additional discussion, the committee approved the second proposal by a vote of 10 to 7.

posal by a vote of 10 to 7.
Committee member Yosenio
Lewis pointed out that the committee has no power to change
legislation, and can only request
that the Health Commissioners
take the committee's recommendations into account. ▼



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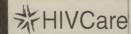
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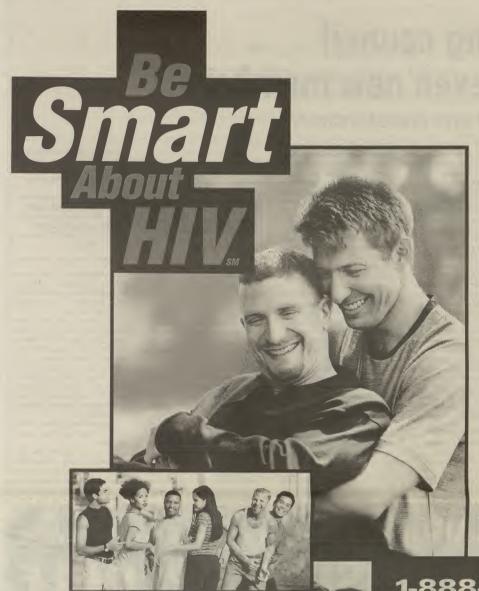
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FERRIJARY 1997

HIV planning council approves seven new members

Council may expand over diversity concern

by Cynthia Laird

even new members to the Mayor's HIV Health Ser-vices Planning Council were approved Monday, May 19, despite concerns by some on the council that only one of them is a person of color. Members put off a discussion on enlarging the size

of the council, and are expected to take up that issue next month.

Presumably, a larger council would result in more people of color being appointed. Several of the slots filled Monday are ones that the federal Ryan White CARE Act mandates must be filled by representatives of various agen representatives of various agen-cies; others are mandated by the council's own by-laws. The plan-ning council prioritizes and allo-cates federal CARE funds for San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties.

All seven new members should be seated by the council's June 16 meeting, according to Dean Goodwin in the mayor's office. Goodwin said on Tuesday that he has already started the process of getting necessary information so that the official letters can be sent from the mayor's office.

The issue of people of color came up after the council learned there were only eight vacancies in-

stead of nine. Originally, nine people were approved by the membership committee, but the remaining two must wait until the council is increased from 36 to possibly 40 members

possibly 40 members.

"This list is very different than we went out looking for," member Will Carter said. "We are doing nothing." He was referring to council discussions on what they consider underrepresented populations. Those include Native Americans, HIV-positive youth, HIV-positive women, advocates for new immigrants and undocumented persons, non-agency-af-filiated consumers of CARE ser-vices, and the transgender com-

munity.

Barbara Garcia, who is on the membership committee, said the group agreed with Carter, but that the federal Health Resources Services Agency (HRSA) mandates certain agencies be represented on the planning council.

"That's why the by-laws

"That's why the by-laws change, to increase the number of people [proposed]," Garcia said.

Carmen gets a reprieve

Before voting to approve the seven members, the council reject-ed the membership committee's recommendation that Carmen Portillo be removed from the council due to lack of attendance.

Portillo, who spoke in her behalf Monday, said she had been on sab-batical and that she was remiss in some responsibilities, including at-tending council meetings. She said she would now be attending meetings. Attendance records reveal Portillo was present at only 35 per-cent of the council meetings from

last September through April.

The council approved removing Melissa Marsh from the council. Marsh's record was even more dismal; she attended only 18 percent of the council meetings dur-ing the same period.

The council's by-laws allow for

only four absences per quarter, including excused absences.
Additionally, the council accepted resignations from Janet Nassar and Chris Sayer.

The new members approved Monday are:

• James Abrams, representing the Native American AIDS Pro-

• Kristen Bellano, representing the AIDS Education and Training Centers (AETC).

Centers (AETC).

• Mark Dunlop of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, who will represent the housing agency that administers Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) programs.

• Gene Gowdey, representing the Dental Reimbursement Pro-

gram.
•Ron Hill of the San Francisco
Health Commission, who will
represent a local public health authority.
• Ron Reynolds of Larkin

Street Youth Center, who will represent the lead agency of a HRSA adult and pediatric HIV-related

care demonstration project.
• Kelly Wallace, who will represent Marin County. ▼

The council's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 16 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. in the sixth floor conference room at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 10 United Nations Plaza, at Seventh and Market streets. For information on the council's various committee meetings, call the AIDS Office at (415) 554-9000.

Treatment

planning council's report and planning council's report and plan. Meredith explained that the community group was formed in February. Three public hearings were held - in the Tenderloin, Mission, and Bayview-Hunters Point areas - where the group heard from many people in and out of substance abuse programs. They discussed what worked and They discussed what worked and what didn't in terms of receiving

"This is the first steps in a long journey," Meredith said, adding that community meetings would likely continue. "We have a commitment to this process."

Renee Williams with the Commission on the Status of Women discussed the importance of cul-

tural competency in treatment on demand programs. Programs must do more than simply be language accessible, she told the

health commission.

Dr. Michael Siever, an openly gay man living with HIV, was also on the planning council. Siever, who lives in the Western Addition, addressed the importance of the harm reduction model in treat-ment. Programs like methadone treatment for heroin addiction, and needle exchange, are two current examples of harm reduction, he explained. "Methadone treatment is now

accepted as legitimate treatment," said Siever.

Commissioners praised the plan and the people who worked on it. "This is an extraordinary document," said Lee Ann Monfre

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Postexposure prophylaxis study debated at community meeting

by Cynthia Laird

he University of California. San Francisco (UCSF), in conjunction with the Department of Public Health (DPH), has applied for a federal grant to study postexposure pro-phylaxis (PEP), but a community advisory board was told last week that the odds are not good it will

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be funded this year. In spite of that, plans are moving forward for some type of PEP program in the city, perhaps as early as July.

PEP has been the standard of care for several years for healthcare workers who have been exposed to HIV through a needle stick or other accident Under stick or other accident. Under PEP, a person is immediately started on a drug regimen in the hopes that seroconversion will be

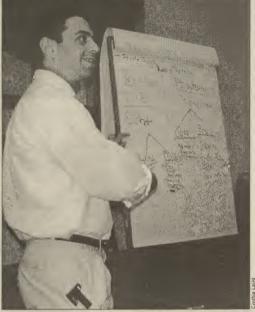
been studied for people who may have been infected through unsafe sexual activity.

Dr. Mitch Katz, AIDS Office director, moderated the Wednesdirector, moderated the Wednes-day, May 14 community advisory board meeting under the glare of television camera lights and mi-crophones; CNN and KQED were there taping the meeting, al-though it is not known whether it will air. Debate during the meet-ing primarily centered on the pros and cons of two models for a PEP program.

The first, inclusion and excluion, is preferred by scientists and was the type specified in the federal grant. The second, known as the patient economy model, seems preferred by community

activists.
Dr. Joshua Bamberger, a researcher at UCSF and family physician with the DPH, told the B.A.R. that they should hear something about the grant in August. If funding is denied, the proposal can be resubmitted. Katz told the community advisory board there's an 80 percent chance the grant will not be funded.
"For applications like this, the

"For applications like this, the funding rate is 15 to 20 percent," said Katz, co-principal investiga-tor of the study. "The overwhelm-ing majority of projects that get funded have had a prior proposal rejected."



PEP boy: Dr. Mitch Katz moderates the May 14 board meeting.

Oral sex included?

Regardless of the grant, Katz and other researchers are moving forward with plans to provide PEP for sexual exposure. Last week's debate centered in part on the two models and whether peo-ple who have had a potential oral sex transmission are treated. Under the grant, PEP would not be offered for oral sex. Although there have been numerous reports of HIV infection through oral sex, there are no per contact estimates of HIV transmission through oral sex, according to the grant appli-

or safer."

The grant states there is an urgency to studying PEP now; some private physicians are already calling DPH to inquire about PEP, and some doctors are recommending their patients receive PEP.

Dr. Jim Kahn, a UCSF investigator involved with writing the grant, said that even under the in-

gard, said that even under the in-clusion/exclusion model, the pa-tient ultimately decides whether to undergo treatment. "No one can force a therapy."

Kahn also said that current rates of HIV infection in San Francisco show that current pre-

Under the grant, PEP would not be offered for oral sex. Although there have been numerous reports of HIV infection through oral sex, there are no per contact estimates of HIV transmission through oral sex, according to the application.

Katz seemed to back away from that statement at last week's meeting, saying investigators went back and forth over the oral sex

"Wherever you draw a line, it's arbitrary. I don't want people to think this model would exclude oral sex," Katz said.

Beth Dillon, representing the Centers for Disease Control and

Beth Dillon, representing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), said she knows of four people who she sincerely believes became HIV-infected through oral sex.

"They feel they've been misled that there's very little risk unless you've been infected," Dillon said. "There is a cavalier attitude in this community about oral sex."

Don Howard, with ACT UP/Golden Gate, said that the gay male community has not said oral sex is safe. "We've said it is safer. We are not prejudging what is safe.

We are not prejudging what is safe

vention methods are not working. "Prevention hasn't worked well enough. There are between 700 and 1,000 new infections every year in San Francisco, with the best prevention message out there. There's a belief that there must be some other intervention," Kahn said. "That amount of new infection isn't good enough. [We] have to sharpen and improve the message.

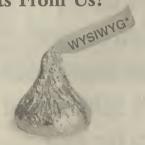
message.

Howard wondered about people who would be excluded from the study. "I don't think we'd be overrun with people. I do worry about people we'd send away."

The next PEP community advisory board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28 at 5:30 p.m. at the AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, fifth floor.

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Monkey trials: Animal studies for AIDS vaccines

by Bill Snow, ACT UP/ Golden Gate Writers Pool

arlier this month there was a lot of press about a vaccine that "protected two chimps from AIDS." The vaccine used a new technology, DNA, or naked DNA, vaccination, in which genetically engineered genetic material was injected into the monkeys di-rectly. A similar DNA vaccine from the company, Appollon, is also in small initial human safety trials at the National Institutes of Health, and soon at other vaccine testing sites around the country.

Chimp protection, so what?

The first vaccines tried against HIV, gp120 from Chiron and HIV, gp120 from Chiron and Genentech, also protected chimpanzees many years ago. These were very exciting findings because they were the first animal protection experiments that were successful, but this was not considered adequate reason in itself to move ahead, into efficacy trials. So in ahead into efficacy trials. So in some sense this is hardly news, and certainly not big news the way the media played it up. It is a step in the right direction for DNA vaccines. The human trials that would allow us to compare the immune response of DNA vaccines to other approaches will be more impor-tant. But this study and its atten-dant publicity do raise the ques-tion of how animal testing fits into the development of vaccines.

Before any potential AIDS drug or vaccine gets permission to be used in human testing, safety tests are done in laboratory ani-mals, first with small animals like mice, then with primates like us, which means monkeys. Animal rights advocates aside, there are generally agreed to be good reasons to do animal testing for experimental agents and procedures before venturing into humans where damage done would be even more unacceptable. With AIDS therapies, however, the tendency has been to minimize animal testing and move rapidly into humans. This is because of the large number of infected people who are willing to take the risks of trying new agents, and because animal studies with HIV present genuine difficulties. Animal studies are never a perfect model for how an agent will work in humans, or how humans will react. The history of medical research is littered with ideas that looked promising in animals that bombed out in human trials for

one reason or another.
The search for an AIDS vac cine, however, has relied heavily on animal studies because there is no other ethical or efficient way to into the thick of the there way to test for protection before moving into very large human trials. In the freewheeling early days of medical experimentation, scien-tists who believed in their treatments or vaccines demonstrated it by testing them on themselves or vulnerable others first, creating infections to demonstrate effica-cy. There are a few heroes from this tradition, and a fair number of dead doctors, prisoners, and in-stitutionalized children.

In today's world, the only acceptable way to prove efficacy of a protective vaccine is to vaccinate enough people at risk so that sta-tistical comparisons can be made between natural infection rates in those randomized to vaccine and those to placebo. After 13 years of research this has not happened with any HIV vaccine candidate, with any HIV vacche candidate, since such a trial would require thousands of participants and take several years. Anything that can be done to help ease the decision whether to go ahead with a specific approach or not – and when – is essential.

Animal experimentation

HIV is, after all, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus; it is almost impossible to infect other animals with the same HIV that infects us. To date, the only two ways to do it is with immune-deficient mice that are reconstituted with human immune cells, or with chimpanzees, our closest relative, which can become infected with HIV. Chimpanzees are rare and

costly, and until recently no chim panzees have ever gotten sick from the virus, so it's hard to know what

The animal challenge

The most typical animal experiment is known as a "challenge experiment." Animals are vaccinated, then "challenged" with a known amount of infectious virus to see if they are protected or if their disease course is different from control animals that were not vaccinated. The chalnot vaccinated. The challenge can be done after different periods of time, by different routes (into the blood or at mucosal surfaces where sexual exposure would take place), with different amounts of virus (number of "animal infectious

doses"), and with dif-ferent strains of virus (same as used in the vaccine design or different). Each of these parameters makes the challenge more or less difficult. No matter what the challenge, however, we have no real idea of how it relates to a human challenge in the real world until we run a large trial.

Macagues and SIV

The most commonly used animal model for HIV vaccines doesn't use HIV at all, but SIV, the Simian Immunodeficiency Virus, in smaller, more easily available monkeys, called macaques. SIV infects macaques easily. In fact, infects macaques easily. In fact,

ome strains of SIV are thought to be more pathogenic in monkeys than HIV is in humans, and it causes a fatal AIDS-like disease in the monkeys within a year. With this model it is possible to exam-ine how well and how different

vaccine approaches work.

A new approach has been to engineer an artificial virus called Simian/Human Immunodeficien-cy Virus (SHIV). This virus has the envelope (outside) of SIV and the genes (inside) of SIV so that it will reproduce in macaques. So far, SHIV viruses have been either

viruses have been either weak and easy to protect against, or very pathogenic and impossible to protect against. With SHIV, we may ultimately be able to learn more about the translation of findings from animal studies into humans. of the safe vaccine ap-

Most of the safe vaccine ap most of the safe vaccine ap-proaches tried in humans so far have not consistently worked to protect macaques against SIV, but no one knows if that is the fault of the vaccine approaches or the an-imal model. It does appear easier to protect chimpanzees against HIV than macaques against most

We have an AIDS vaccine for monkeys

The one SIV vaccine approach that consistently provides high levels of protection in these mon-keys is live-attenuated SIV. This is

SIV that has been weakened by having genes removed or coming from non-progressors, that is then used to infect the monkey with the weakened virus. The immune believed to protect against a later challenge with more virulent SIV. This approach has consistently worked, but it is considered unsafe to try in humans at this time, since we don't know what the long-term effects of this low grade infection will be, or if the virus might not mutate to become more dangerous, or be transmis-sible to infants or others with weaker immune systems.

The powerful part of this find-ing is that the animal researchers may be able to tease out exactly what it is that is protecting these animals so we can find a safer way to stimulate protection. If not, a live attenuated HIV vaccine in humans may be the vaccine of last resort in high-risk environments. Many of the successful vaccines against other diseases use the live attenuated approach.

What we've learned

Since the virus and the host are both significantly different, we must be cautious when interpret-ing findings from animal studies, especially since the studies are not standardized and not all experiments in animals are consistent with each other. Some valuable and important general principles have been established: 1) it is sometimes possible to protect

page 29

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OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Gregg Lee Carron May 8, 1997



Gregg Lee Car-ron, 48, son of the late Leo E. Carron and Erma Hughes, passed away May 8. Gregg, a 20-year resident of San Francisco, endured the ravages of AIDS for the past two years and suc-

years and succumbed to ITP.

A natural bon vivant, Gregg sought
out the best in current fiction, fine dining (his Sunday barbecues the envy of
many) and travel. He was well-known
for his incisive wit and will be missed by
all who knew him.

Gregg was talented with his hands
and worked as a set builder, advertising
stylist and visual merchandising designer. His work took him to the showrooms of New York, LA, Chicago and
Toronto.

Gregg is survived by his brother, Ross; sister-in-law, Kay; an aunt; and several cousins. He is also survived by his friend and partner, Don; friends,

2 July 1962

Richard A., Susan Mary, Sandy, Richard D. and Tony; and out-of-town friends, Tim, Tom and Bob. He recently found comfort with his buddies at the Monday afternoon Kaiser support group.
A fiesta in Gregg's honor will be held on Sunday, May 25. For more information, please call 415/863-9854.
Donations may be made to AEF and Project Open Hand.

Charles E. Hennan Dec. 31, 1948 – May 12, 1997



"Chas" passed away May 12. He will be missed by his many friends here in San Francis co, most especially by Barton Dreyer. Chas was interred at the Elks Rest Columbarium.

Christopher "Chris" Leon Godsey

Chris, 36, died April 24 of a heart ack in New Jersey while en route to

work.

Originally from New Jersey, Chris lived in California from 1992 to 1995, spending time in San Francisco, Oakland, Santa Cruz and Petaluma. While in the Bay Area, he was employed as a service advisor for San Francisco Honda. He relocated to Petaluma and worked for a Honda dealership there. When Chris' health started to decline, he returned to New Jersey to be with his family. His health improved, and he became involved in various community service events there and to New Jersey to the with the Santy His Meath in proved, and he became involved in various community service events there and the New York before he was unexpected by taken from us.

Chris is survived by his mother,

New York before he was unexpectedly taken from us. Chris is survived by his mother, Elaine; stepfather, Don; a brother; a host of relatives/friends in Erial, N,I; Cecilia Adams R.N. of Petaluma; Leon Bac-chues of Oakland; and his many other friends in California. Services were held in Erial on April 29, and cremation fol-

Aaron Fitzgerald

IN MEMORIUM A service will be held at the Zen Center, Page at Laguna

on Sunday, the 8th of June, at 2:00 p.m.

Scott W. Baldwin

April 12, 1949 - April 30, 1997 Scott was born to Dorothy and John Baldwin Sr. (of Brattleboro, VT), in Claremont, NH on April 12, 1949.
Scott received his Bachelor of Education degree in 1971 from Keene State College. In 1977, Scott completed the theological study program in the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont. He was

Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Burlington, V1.
In 1986, Scott founded Your Printer on Caesar-Chavez street in San Francisco. Additionally he served as assisting priest at Holy Innocents church in Noe Valley, San Francisco.

Most recently, Scott co-founded The Home Communities of

Francis & Clare, San Francisco (other branches located in FL and NJ). From the gatherings of this all inclusive, egalitarian, creation-centered community, Scott created a ritual book titled THANKS & PRAISE which is meant to be used by this group

and by other groups as a springboard for creative ritual. In 1996, Scott was consecrated Bishop in the Ecumenical Catholic

On April 30, 1997, Scott died of AIDS related complications at On April 30, 1997, Scott died of AIDS feated complications at Davies Medical Center in San Francisco. Scott died peacefully in his sleep, surrounded by his family including his life partner of 15 years, James Bleau (formerly of Essex Junction, VT), and his children; Erica, Kristina, Matthew and Melissa (formerly of

Colchester, VT).

ordained deacon and priest, then served as Canon at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Burlington, VT.

18 April 1997

lowed. The family requests that dona-tions in Chris' memory be made to the Cosmopolitan Missionary Baptist Church, 988 85th Ave., Oakland, CA 94621 (510/559-6441) for the Milton L Hill HIV/AIDS Ministry. All cards and acknowledgments sent to the church will be forwarded to Chris' family.

Carlos D. Nieves Nov. 19, 1958 - May 9, 1997



Carlos D. Nieves

Nov. 19, 1958 – May 9, 1997

Carlos D.

Nieves, the fourth of eight children, was born in Yaurel, Puerto Rico, to Marta Sanchez and Daniel Nieves

Berlardo. Carlos attended the Inter American University in Guayama, Puerto Rico, for four years. After that, he studied chemical laboratory technology.

In 1980, Carlos visited California and decided to establish permanent residence. He worked for various companies, including Carpet Inc. and Hewlett Packard.

In July 1996, Carlos was diagnosed with a terminal illness. After a brief stay at San Francisco General Hospital, he was transferred to Davies Medical Center. A special thanks to members and staff of SPGH and DMC.

Numerous friends in San Francisco and the Bay Area will remember Carlos as a kind, feisty, intelligent, fun-loving, loyal and giving person. He is survived by his mother, Marta Sanchez; father, Daniel Nieves Belardo; brothers, Alberto, Jose and Antonio; sisters, Diana, Evelyn, Awilda and Emma; and very close friends, Dr. Ronald Underwood, Greg and Danny, Donald and Flora Griggs, Pearl Prater and the New Liberation Church family.

John Andrew Polomsky Dec. 12, 1930 - June 28, 1995



John Andrew Polomsky died of lung cancer on June 28, 1995, at St. Mary's Regional Medical Center in Reno, Nev. He was 64.

Reno, Nev. He was 64.
A native of New Orleans, La., Polomsky had lived in Sparks, Nev., for the past 15 years. Previously, he had lived in San Francisco for many years, where he was an artist involved in the gallery scene. He was also an underwriter for Hartford Insurance for 10 years before his retirement in January 1995.
Polomsky was survived by his sisters, Joann Polomsky of Dallas and Carol Polomsky of New Orleans. A memorial gathering was held, and cremation was at the Sierra Crematory in Reno under the direction of the John Sparks Memorial Cremation Sparks Memorial Cremation Society of Sparks, Nev.
Polomsky was also survived by his longtime friend and executor, Julie C. Robinson, who would like to hear from any of his relatives or friends, especially his sisters or Perry Martin. You may call her at 70(2)331-3073 or write her at 130 Lenwood Drive, Sparks, NV 89431-1361.



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Hair hysteria

◆ page 1

incidents would result in disciplinary action," and reiterated a con-tinuing requirement that he bring his hair back to grooming stan-

"It has been observed that you highlighted your hair to a shade that is not consistent with your nat-ural hair color or roots," he wrote.

Brueh said that he was "requesting" Fox to bring his hair-style "in compliance" to the Hilton grooming standard. "Until that time," the memo

said, "you will not be permitted to continue working."

Brueh's fashion memorandum

spelled out the Hilton's hair stan-dards and was also sent to Berry, who ordered the action, and to Laurie Foye, the Hilton's Director of Human Resources.

"Hair styles must not be ex-treme or unusual and should be appropriate for the health, safety, and grooming standards of the de-partment and the hotel," Brueh wrote. "Hair must be kept clean, well-groomed, and stylishly kept at all times. If employees color their hair, the roots of the hair must re-main the same color of the hair. main the same color of the hair. Hilton grooming standards do not permit extremes in dying [sic], bleaching, or tinting. Hairpieces may be worn as long as they are of a business-like style, and hair appearance will not be restricted if a business-like hairpiece is worn."

A three-year resident of San Francisco, Fox last lived in Charleston, South Carolina for nine years. Like most other non-native

Charleston, South Carolina for nine years. Like most other non-native San Francisco gay men, he came to the city because of its reputation as a sanctuary for openly gay men. "I was basically living in a closet there. I was relieved to be openly gay," he said. "I feel as though I have been kicked in the guts. I was devastated and humiliated to be told to leave the floor. I hardly slept a wink all night," he said.

ACT UP

◀ page **27**

chimpanzees and macaques against immunodeficiency viruses by vaccination; 2) the more rapidly the virus replicates and produces disease, the more difficult it is to protect the host by vaccination; 3) though protection has been shown against virus introduced by intravenous injection, it seems easier to protect against mucosal exposure, not harder as some had predicted; 4) even when a monkey is not completely protected from infection, vaccination may slow or pre-vent development of disease; 5) the best animal protection is by a weakened live form of SIV; this ap-proach, which could be very risky in humans, produces the strongest, most reliable protection, particu-larly against virus strains closely related to the vaccine.

What we might learn/ What we can't learn from animals

As stated earlier, animal studies play a key part in the search for a vaccine against HIV. The mod-els aren't perfect, but they help determine how protection works and what approaches are better than others. Ultimately, though, we will have to go into human tri-als to see how much like our ancestors we are, and to determine if any vaccine approach works. Aniany vactice approach works. All-mal studies may guide us in mak-ing decisions about human stud-ies, but they will never tell us what the outcome will be, or what the risks and rewards of moving ahead with such trials will be. Fox said that he would not change the hair highlights, and would report to work on Thurs-

would report to work on Thursday, May 22 at 6 a.m.
"I only hope they don't send me home with a written warning. This is just highly inappropriate. I am very unhappy."
Fox told the B.A.R. that he would also file with the city's Human Rights Commission and the state's Department of Fair the state's Department of Fair Housing and Employment. He also plans to see legal counsel over the incident.

This is the second major claim of discrimination to be lodged by a gay male employee against the hotel in the last two years. A pre-vious claim by Hilton worker Tim Miller remains under investiga-tion by the city's Human Rights Commission

Commission.

Larkin reiterated that the Hilton Hotel chain has strong anti-discrimination policies that the conglomerate strictly enforces

in each hotel it operates.

Fox is the partner of openly gay veteran San Francisco Assistant District Attorney Chuck Haines, who manages felony crime prosecutions for the San Francisco District Attorney's of-fice and is now a candidate for Su-perior Court Judge.

UCSF Researchers at San Francisco General Hospital are recruiting HIV Positive People for clinical trials:

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Venom

by Jim Provenzano

here is a problem in wrestling that involves gen-der and sexuality. Title IX, which will hereafter be written as makes my brain say "Eye Eks," is only one of the problems.

Anyway, Title 9 involves forcing schools to boost their female

athletic opportunities to enforce gender parity. This at first would seem a good idea, allowing there

seem a good idea, allowing there to be equal funding for all.
But what if not enough girls wanted to play? What if the point was irrelevant when most girls who want to play sports are already on basketball and lacrosse and swimming and tennis teams? What if the university system, in its Kafka-esque manner, were to force such an equanimity on university athletics? Who would suffer?

versity athletics? Who would suf-fer?

The sports that girls don't al-ways do, like wrestling, would suf-fer. And they do. Syracuse is the latest casualty in a series of wrestling programs that have completely lost funding, because that university has failed to force enough women to wrestle. There-fore, the wrestling program is cut.

If this draconian measure fails in your logic department, then we are in accord. The same inane

are in accord. The same inane measure, taken to issues of race and age, would also be absurd. The illogic of Title 9, taken to is-sues of race, would be thus: "There are not enough Asian Chemistry majors, therefore, we

will cut funding for the Chemistry

which thinking for the Chemistry
Department until they come up
with enough to fill our quotas."
This problem brings to question what one e-mail debater of
Title 9 pondered: should athletics
even be included in universities?
That they are all like selvins if That may seem like asking if wheels should be put on cars, but it begs the question, do academics and athletics co-exist in today's culture?

culture?
Certainly, in Greek and
Roman times, the gymnasium was more than a
place for the likes of
Plato to cruise young
tracksters. It was a combined arena for the rich
young men of culture to pay
for their enlightenment and education
while perfecting their Sports Complex while perfecting their bodies.

One would think that these environ-ments could co-exist. I have, how-ever, personal evidence to the

contrary.

Let us imagine, in a perfectly absurd world, which San Francisco is increasingly becoming, that sexual orientation was included in sexual orientation was included in the gender war of Title 9. The logic would follow: "There are not enough queer students in athlet-ics, so funding will be cut unless more are recruited."

Would then a harmonious ath-letic ambiance be established? Not likely. This is far from the case in likely. This is far from the case in the wrestling room at a certain place of learning which I recently attended, where I added an elec-tive, "The Elements of Wrestling,"

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taught by one Coach X. While his success record is untaintable, his teaching behavior deserves cri-tique, specifically in regards to his (you guessed it) fag-hating na-

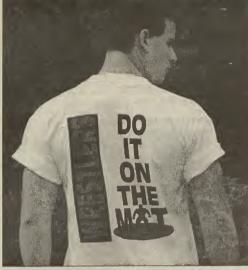
The unpleasantness was not even limited to gays. One student was outright inquisitioned by Coach X about his own sexual Coach X about his own sexual orientation, due solely to his having been seen speaking to me, a big fag. When he mentioned that the workouts (the most incompetent

and knee-damaging series of exercises I have ever endured, and as a survivor of a seven-year dance career, I know knees) proved too painful and exhaust-ing, Coach X asked him if he had some-

him if he had someone to give him massages, perhaps a girlfriend or boyfriend.
There is no secret of Coach X's blatant homophobia, regardless of how subtly he masks it in his conversation. Evidence of such has previously been published in Y. previously been published in X University's student newspaper. And while I know former and

current homosexual wrestlers on that team, I will not relay numbers, for it would only further the dangerous situation for the young men. As a former staff member of

men. As a former staff member of OutWeek, I no longer casually out. The "Elements of Wrestling" class was mostly composed of JV members of the wrestling team, and a few inexperienced strag-glers, most of whom dropped out soon, as did I, after discovering



A model of behavior from a wrestling gear catalog.

that the experienced wrestlers had little interest in teaching the less experienced. For myself (being moderately experienced), this proved to be of less use than wrestling dogs with unclipped fingernalis.

Early on in said course, as I and another homosexual student (who shunned so much as a greeting my

shunned so much as a greeting my way, so afraid was that person of being thought of as gay) were warming up, Coach X inquired about my being a journalist.

Knowing full well that curious instructors may at any time take liberties with a student's personal files, I wondered what Coach X thought of when he spied my previous A in Gay Male Literature.

How Coach X, an avowed heterosexual, could know of my journalistic career, without perusing a

nalistic career, without perusing a homosexual publication like this one, did not astound me. In the past, when considering wrestling with his informal group over the previous summer, I mentioned that I had a few years experience with the Golden Gate Wrestling Club, which, despite his distaste, Coach X knows exists, knows is composed mostly of homosexu-als, and which is a damn good club.*

Discretion, while the better

Discretion, while the better part of valor, is not any part of Coach X, or his underlings.

Coach X, in his mendacious way, managed to convey the sexual orientation of this reporter to each of his athletic underlings. I do not recall sporting any of my ACT UP or Queer Nation T-shirts in class. Conveying that subtlety was required for his athletes to enact their hatred upon me.

enact their hatred upon me.
The result? Endearing comments such as the one uttered by an athlete (whom I have spotted frequenting the Castro with a noless-gay-appearing compadre), upon dipping his finger in a droplet of my perspiration – "fag

Avoiding "fag sweat" seemed to be an imperative to these young men, and other compulsive hand-washing neurotics that comprise the ranks of "I'm not gay" athletes

in this sport. Thus the overcompensation of this sport's less mapensation of this sports less flat-ture members. Racist, sexist and generally stupid comments were frequently heard before, during and after said class. These, I learned, are the Elements of

learned, are the Elements or Wrestling.
Included in the ludicrous be-havior of this gang was the appli-cation of a sort of cootie cream bent on dispelling the deadly AIDS virus, which as any homo-phobic or closeted idiot/athlete knows, is spread through the in-wishle tendrils of foxic yenom visible tendrils of toxic venom that we homosexuals come equipped with before landing on God's green earth in our alien

Perturbed at having yet again experienced homophobia?

Perturbed for having paid tu-

ition for it?
You bet your fat ass, Coach X.
This behavior comes as no surprise to any person familiar with athletics of a juvenile sort. Having recently completed a novel about just such an environment, I was just such an environment, I was not surprised, but merely disappointed. In my novel, about a young gay high school wrestler, the boy's teammates and coaches are generally supportive, if not ignorant, of his problems and his emerging "out" status as a cute young queer. I had hoped to portray a world where athletics and humanity coincide.

It would appear that revisions are in order.

The world was a contractive to the support of the supp

*This damned good club, the Golden Gate Wrestling Club, happens to be hosting its annual very large Memorial Day Weekend gathering of gay and gay-friendly wrestlers this weekend at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center, located on Collingwood at 18th Street. Those wishing to participate may call (415) 821-2991 for more information, or check out our website at http://plaza.interport.net/wrestl

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That's Master Provenzano, now!

n May 31, Jim Provenzano will complete a Master's Degree in English: Creative Writing, at a university he no longer cares to promote. He does care to promote The Visitation, his May 31 graduation party, which will be held from 4-8 p.m. in Koshland Community Park, at the corner of Buchanan and Page streets in San Francisco. All Sports Complex fans are invited.

BAY REAR EPORTER SSIFI

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO.213499 STATEMENT FILE NO.213499
The following person(s) are doing business as LASER SMOKE SHOP, 61-63 Taylor St., San Francisco, CA 94102: Rantisi karim Fayek, 639 Masson, San Bruno, CA 94066. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitions business name on the date of April 24, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Rantisi Karim. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 24, 1997.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO.213499 STATEMENT FILE NO.213499
The following person(s) are doing business as WRITER'S WEB PRESS, 664 Church St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above ficitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed Robert Kahn, managing partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 22, 1997. cisco, CA on April 22, 1997. May 1, 8, 15, 22, 1997.

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 1997.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 210244

The following person has abandoned the use of the ficticious business known as LASER SMOKE SHOP, at 61 & 63 Taylor St., San Francisco, CA 94102. The ficticious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on December 30, 1996. Name and address of registrant: Jaser H. Haser, 901 Kains Ave, San Bruno, CA 94066. This business was conducted by an individual. Signed JASER H. JASER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date April 24, 1997 Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk-Recorder, by Keith Wong, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO.213598 he following person(s) are doing business NEW HORIZIONS CONSTRUCTION, 585 Rockdale Dr., San Francisco, CA 94127: Timothy Paschal Lyons, 585 Rock-dale Dr., San Francisco, CA 94127. Regis-trant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 29, 1997. This business is con-ducted by an individual. Signed Paschal Lyons. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and Country of San Francisco. CA on April 29 1997 Francisco, CA on April 29, 1997. May 8, 15, 22, 29, 1997.

STATEMENT FILE NO.213180
The following person(s) are doing business as PERSONNEL PREFERENCE, 295
Buchanan St., Sulte 204, San Francisco, CA 94102: Scott M. Foresman, 295
Buchanan St. #204, San Francisco, CA 94102: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 15, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Scott M. Foresman. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on April 15, 1997. 1997. May 8, 15, 22, 29, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO.213750
The following person(s) are doing business as THE WATCHED POT, 1626 Diamond St., San Francisco, CA 94131-2233: Roy Martyn Jones, 1626 Diamond St., San Francisco, CA 94131-2233. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed R. Martyn Jones: This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 5, 1997. 5, 1997. May 8, 15, 22, 29, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 986338
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MIN HUANG for change of name. The application of MIN HUANG for change of name, having

been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MIN HUANG has filed an application proposing that has filed an application proposing that NES. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the '9th day of June, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be pubname should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 28th day of April, 1997. May 8, 15, 22, 29, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO.

RDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 986378
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ALBERT ALEX CATLI for change of name. The application of ALBERT ALEX CATLI for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ALBERT ALEX CATLI has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to DAVIS ALBERT LEIGH. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 10th day of June, 1997, at 9 o'Clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 29th day of April, 1997.

NRDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 986429

986429
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE

LEGAL NOTICES

COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of SHARON LEE GRUSKIN-PONDER for change of name. The application of SHARON LEE GRUSKIN-PONDER for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that SHARON LEE GRUSKIN-PONDER has fifted an application proposing that HER name be changed to SHARON LEE PONDER. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear hefore this Court in Department X-4 on the 12th day of June, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 30th day of April, 1997. May 8, 15, 22, 29, 1997.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SELL ALCOHOLLIC BEVERAGES
TO Whom It May Concern:
The Names(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are:
KUNG TI CHING. The applicants listed above are appling to the Department of Accoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 34.1 L6TH ST, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103. For the following type of License: 4.1 ON SALE BEER AND WINE-EATING. SAN FRANCISCO Distric Office, 185 Berry St, Ste 5600, San Francisco, CA 94107. (415) 557-3660
May 8, 15, 22, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213861 STATEMENT FILE NO. 21386.1
The following person(s) are doing business as FIGHT BACK! VIDEO, 508A 14th St., San Francisco, CA 9410.3: Gregory Boyd, 508A 14th St., San Francisco, CA 9410.3: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Gregory Boyd. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 8, 1997.
May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213865 STATEMENT FILE NO. 213865
The following person(s) are doing business as SECURITY MAIL BOX, 1550 California St., Suite 6U, San Francisco, CA 94109; Richard F. Garcia, 914 Flordia "A", San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of NA. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Richard F. Garcia. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 8, 1997. May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213817 STATEMENT FILE NO. 213817
The following person(s) are doing business as ALL ABOUT YOU PHOTOGRAPHY, 300 Third St #318, San Francisco, CA 94107: Barry H. Simmons, 300 Third St #318, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 7, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Barry H. Simmons. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 7, 1997.
May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 213795 STATEMENT FILE NO. 213795
The following person(s) are doing business as UNIFIED HEALTH SYSTEMS, 519
Castro St., Suite 7, San Francisco, CA
94114: James E. Freidman, 2301 Clay
St., San Francisco, 94118. Registrant(s)
commenced business under the above fictious business name on the date of May 1,
1997. This business is conducted by an in-dividual. Signed James E. Freidman. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco,
CA on May 6, 1997.
May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

STATEMENT FILE ND. 213859
The following person(s) are doing business as CARCORMATT TRUCKING, 1909 Sunnydale Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134:
Denise Lather, 1909 Sunnydale Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of May 8, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Denise Lather. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 8, 1997. 1997. May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 214112 STATEMENT FILE NO. 214112
The following person(s) are doing business as STAT SYSTEMS, 88 Howard St. #2211, San Francisco, CA 94105: Stanley D. Becker, 88 Howard St. #2211, San Francisco, CA 94105. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 11, 1997. This business is conducted by an in-dividual. Signed Stanley Becker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on May 16, 1997.
May 22, 29, June 5, 12, 1997.

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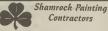
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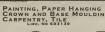
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SF Ballet's 'Ciao, Marcello' and Parsons Dance Company's 'Bachiana'

invigorate San Francisco's dance scene.

page 44, 45

Hollywood snapper

gets a king-size tribute in 'Hurrell's Hollywood.' page 46



Nayland Blake goes bunny crazy in latest show, 'April Hare.'

page 43



BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAINM

Vol. 27 • No. 21 • 22 May 1997

Comeback kids

The London Suede returns to San Francisco

by Adrian Roberts

wo years ago, it looked as if Suede's 15 minutes of fame were up. After all the hype surrounding their stellar 1993 self-titled debut had died down, the band's sophisticated follow-up. Dog Man Star, elicited a more tepid response. Although it was in many respects a better record, the group's luster had apparently dimmed. The band's future looked even more uncertain when, shortly before the album's completion, guitarist Bernard Butler left the band, leaving singer Brett Anderson without a sonewriting partner.

Bernard Butler left the band, leaving singer Brett Anderson without a songwriting partner.

"We were slightly concerned," bassist Mat Osman dryly explains over the phone from his home in London. "By the time Bernard left, it was completely divided," says Osman. "You see, we don't really hang out with other bands, we're pretty tight-knit, with the same ideas and

goals. He wanted to do his own thing."

After Butler's abrupt and ill-timed exit, the band soon recruited 18-year-old Richard Oakes, who, in addition to having the group's requisite good looks, was able to mimic Butler's glam-influenced guitar histrionics perfectly. Unlike Butler, however, he actually got along with the rest of the band. "One of the best things about Richard joining is that it actually feels like a gang again," says Osman.

While there was never any doubt that Oakes could play the old songs note for note, the real question was, could he write good songs? That he can is more than apparent on Coming Up, Suede's third album. Filled with hook-laden pop songs, gritty glam-rock bravado, and an affinity for trashy London street culture, Coming Up is more than just an energetic comeback album. It is quite possibly Suede's page 47



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by Chris Culwell, Pithy Galore, and Adrian Roberts

e were simply stunned to death last week by the number of newspapers that scooped us on the big news that Will Smith will play jazz leg-end Billy Strayhorn in the soonto-be-made movie of *Lush Life*, **David Hadju's** biography of the late, queer jazz legend. Still, while most of the dailies carried this bit of movie news, several — East Bay fish wraps, mostly — forgot to mention that Strayhorn was gay, and that in playing him, Will Smith will be making his second screen outing as a friend of Dorothy's, the first being 1994's Six Degrees of Separation.

Some may remember that at the time of Six's release, Smith got himself into some hot water with homos when he said in several in-terviews that he would not kiss a man onscreen, as the script re-quires, and requested director Fred Schepisi to shoot the re-Fred Schepisi to shoot the required kiss in such a way as to create the illusion of two men smooching without actually doing it. When queried about the matter later, Smith said he was merely following the advice of his good friend Denzel Washington, who, he says, told him, "Whatever you do, don't be kissin' no man onscreen." Washington will play alongside Smith in Lush Life, as Strayhorn's overprotective friend Strayhorn's overprotective friend and inspiration, **Duke Ellington**.



Will Smith

We're glad that Smith and Washington are close enough to be sharing trade secrets, but anybody who's read Hadju's book knows Strayhorn's story is a very gay one — he was Lena Horne's gay one — he was **Lena Horne**'s best friend, after all — and if the film is to succeed on its own terms it had better not dance around its tres lavender subject.

An Ellen moment

Patrons of Zuni Cafe were jolted out of their blubber-tartar haze last Wednesday night when Ellen DeGeneres and Anne Heche strolled in for a little post-Ellen nightcap. Rumor has it the couple was here scouting out a potential Pac Heights address, but no one is talking. Our Zuni source a Hantle Pac Heights address, but no one is talking. Our Zuni source, a **Hand-some Thing** who moonlights on local stages, tells us that upon en-tering Zuni, Ellen and Anne, de-liberately slumming in matching khakis and disheveled 'dos, chat-ted amiably with adoring fans be-fore extracting unstains to a conve ted amiably with adoring tans before retreating upstairs to a cozy
table, where the lovebirds chowed
down on white wine and oysters.
Handsome Thing relates that
when a gaggle of bleating teens
standing across the street getting
stoned noticed the couple and

began waving furiously, Ellen and Anne invited them in to sup. Thing says airheaded Anne wanted to buy oysters for everyone, but sensible en called that 'adult food" and Ellen adult food" and changed the order to "ten desserts with milk." The bill? A mere \$90 with tax. Now, who said that Ellen isn't a sensible girl?

Glamorous constellation Local wonderscribe **Kevin Killian** was the man of the hour
last Sunday afternoon,
when writer

Self-portrait (Actress) /

after Audrey Hepburn 2,

Robert Glück and artist Chris Komater threw a party at their lovely home above the Castro in honor of the publication of Killian's latest literary efforts, novel Arctic Summer and Little Men, a collection of short stories.

SF scenesters converged on the Glück/Komater digs, where they gobbled up homemade strawberry shortcake, drank champagne punch, and mingled with the cream of SF's literary and art cream of SF's literary and art scenes. People are forever bemoaning the lack of celebrities around here, but they were virtually everywhere the eye could see on Sunday, though admittedly our eyes were a bit befogged by the champagne. The scribes on hand included Glen Helfand, David Bonetti, Aaron Shurin, Dodie Bellamy, Jacques Servin, Simon Sheppard, Roberto Friedman, and Erin Blackwell, and the artists of note included Cliff Hengst, Scott Hewicker, Vince Fecteau, Craig Goodman, Wayne Smith, Michelle Rollman, and Craig Goodman, Wayne Smith, Michelle Rollman, and the charming Brett Reichman. We hear the guests loved Glück's gardens and... did we mention the champagne punch?

Camp mutation

Harvard art historian Norman Bryson was in town last week to give a talk on Japanese artist Ya-sumasa Morimura at SFMOMA. sumasa Morimura at SFMOMA. Pithy and several friends attended the presentation and were blown away. Queer writers and theorists are forever talking about the death of camp these days, but if Morimura's gender-twisting art has anything to say on the subject, it's that camp isn't so much dead as reborn, perhaps in a new, lesseasily identifiable form. For instance, in some' of the Osakastance, in some of the Osaka-based artist's self-portraits, he camouflages love of debasement camouflages love of debasement by dropping his priceless mug into reproductions of masterpieces of European art history, for example Rembrandt's The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Tulp, and Manet's Olympia. And in his latest body of work, Self-Portraits, Actresses, Morimura impersonates famous stars like Catherine Deneuve, Jodie Foster, and Audrey Hephurn, only he tweaks viewers' expectations of celebrity viewers' expectations of celebrity snapshots by tossing in references to exotic cultures and various historical periods. Bryson called the portraits "multicultural mutants."

torical perious. Byson charet the portraits "multicultural mutants."

If that delightfully hyperbolic ejaculation wasn't enough to send Pithy's head spinning, Morimura's art was also capable of such feats as "exploding the old essentialism," "rendering meaningless the futile search for an organic culture," and "changing the psychographic map of a world once dominated from the West."

Thankfully, just as Pithy was about to dismiss Bryson as an incomprehensible theory wonk, he cut to the chase: "The work is like Divine," said Bryson, grasping the sides of his lectern. "It's about trash."

Lip strumming

We've been reading some of the reviews of *The Rise and Fall of Gay Culture*, **Daniel Harris'** new book, that have begun appearing in various gay and lesbian publications across the country. Some, like **Gary Indiana's** in Artforum, have been quite astute, while oth-ers appear to have been penned by little green men from Mars. One review even strikes us as corrupt. In its June issue, Out

> book reviewer writes disparagingly of

The Rise and Fall of Gay Culture's "unevenness," its "profoundly curmudgeonly text," and carps about Harris' having "nothing to say on the history of racism" (which is not true). What strikes us as ironic, though, is the reviewer's unexplainable memory lapses, which resulted in his failure to mention, among other things, the rather lengthy chapter in Harris' book devoted to the "new gay glossies," in which Harris analyzes magazines like Out and Genre and trashes them by name for being a "form of escapist literature that operates on its readers much as Harlequin romances function for housewives, mances function for housewives.



allowing them to indulge their fantasies about a nonexistent Shangrila that embodies the homosexual's daydreams about a fully liberated gay future."

Ulrich 10/Smuin 0

Is it true that Examiner music and dance critic Allan Ulrich has had press privileges revoked by Smuin Ballets/SF? Oh my, how

page 51 ▶









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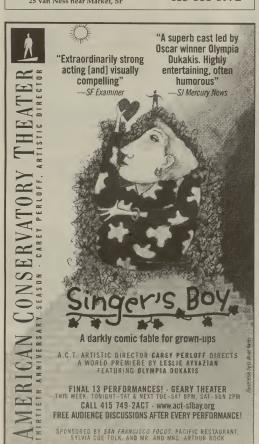
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In The Secret Six, the city is visualized as a battleground for rival gangs, corrupt lawyers, and politicians.

Dirty rotten scoundrels

'Hollywood Before the Code'

by Gary Morris

udiences sated by tabloid TV, with its parade of brainless child brides, KKK

brainless child brides, KKK hags, and other denizens of America's bone-dry gene pools, might want to turn their sights on an earlier, equally lurid chapter of cultural history: pre-code cinema.

In 1934 the Hays Code was created to put an end to Hollywood's perceived immorality. In a sense, it's surprising such restraints were deemed necessary, when most of the films had arwhen most of the films had an guably happy endings in which conventional morality was re-esconventional morality was re-established by the image of a whore redeemed, a gangster murdered, or a family reunited. But the self-appointed morality czars — church groups, women's clubs — weren't fooled by what was typically a tacked-on finale that followed the equivalent of a Whitman's sampler of deviance. To wit: in Kongo (1932), Walter Huston plays a rapacious jungle overlord who has his own daughter turned into a drug addict and hooker. In Tarzan and His Mate (1934), attentive viewers were mesmerized by lingering images of Johnny by lingering images of Johnny Weismuller's exposed flesh and Maureen O'Sullivan's erect nipples. *Downstairs* (1932) has raunchyshots of a pathetic, naked raunchyshots of a pathetic, naked old woman in a bathtub, sobbing at the sight of gigolo John Gilbert, who's jilted her. In Babyface (1933), a ruthless Barbara Stanwyck fucks her way to the top of a powerful bank, her progress marked by mocking shots of increasingly higher floors in the building.

building.

The Roxie celebrates these and similar thrills with "Hollywood Before the Code," a 20-film series of pre-code films commencing Friday, May 23 and through Sunday, June 1.

through Sunday, June 1.

The sight of class barriers crashing away was one that depression-era viewers demanded, and the studios were always happy to oblige. A famous shot in the Crawford vehicle Possessed (1931) showed exactly what suffering audiences were missing. Crawford is diences were missing. Crawford is a factory girl who stands next to a train filled with frivolous rich people. She clearly doubles for the audience as she longingly views window after window, each fea-turing a different enticing tableau: a couple dancing, a maid ironing her mistress' clothes, a gorgeously appointed dining table. The film endorses her unrepentant golddigging, even in scenes that might limit audience identification, such as her demand that a total stranger tell her if he is merely "rich" or the more desirable "very

The luminous Talullah Bankhead vehicle Faithless (1932) mimics Possessed in showing the minute details of the kind of plush life that existed in capitalist America, even if it was out of the audiences' reach. But Talullah, unaddlences reach, but fauthan, unlike Joan, is on a downward spiral; after losing her fortune, she plunges from white satin and Tiffany to the grimy hell of rented rooms, near-starvation, and prostitution. In a brilliantly dark serealizes Talullah is about to go out to turn her first trick. "You look pale," the older woman says — a coded suggestion to put on her make-up if she wants to attract johns. This kind of subtle understanding of life. standing of life's crushing realities is a hallmark of this cinema, made at a time when helping your neighbor, or your tenant, was crucial to survival.

In the pre-code ethos, if women's crimes were sexual and individual, men's were criminal and collective, a kind of distorted mirror-image of the capitalist ethic of success as the result of hard work and dogged conformity. The Secret Six visualizes the city ty. The Secret Six visualizes the city as little more than a battleground for rival gangs, filled with speakeasies, corrupt lawyers and politicians, and endless layers of death. politicians, and endless layers of double-cross. The title counters charges of '30s cinema as old-fashioned. In a very modern nod to conspiracy theories, the "secret six" is a bizarre group of old white men who wear Halloween masks and stand as the last defense against the hoodlums threatening

against the hoodlums threatening to overwhelm the city.

The gangster epic Beast of the City is another forward-looking gem, predating both Sam Peckinpah and John Woo with its story of divided loyalties among a group of men that ends in an orgy of mesculing brutality.

of masculine brutality.

If the violence-plagued city was the typical pre-code land-scape, it wasn't the only one. Movies like *Tarzan and His Mate* and Kongo let audiences wallow in the particularized pleasures of an environment far away from prying civilized eyes: the jungle. Here, an "ape man" could tantalize the viewer with an animalistic sexuality; or a beautiful young woman could flesh out the fantasy of going from convent to whorehouse, as Virginia Bruce does in

Norma Shearer fans — and we Norma Shearer fans — and we know you're out there! — will find much to savor in her "modern woman" routines in Riptide (1934) and Noel Coward's Private Lives (1931). Many of the precode films can be read as vehicles for female stars, and those looking for less portision placeures will for female stars, and those look-ing for less patrician pleasures will want to see *The Strange Love of Molly Louvain*, in which the great, unsung Ann Dvorak plays an unwed mother. Another stalwart of the era is Bette Davis, seen here as a San Francisco playgirl in Fog Over Frisco (1934). If Freaks (1932) holds a per-manent place in the collective un-conscious as the weirdest pre-

conscious as the weirdest pre-code film, *Black Moon* (1933) runs a close second. This Columbia programmer collapses two genres, the fallen woman and the jungle film in its story of a woman whose allegiance to an island of whose allegiance to an island of oppressed natives and their voodoo religion squashes any domestic or maternal impulses she might feel. Black Moon's penultimate scene — a mesmerized mother attempting to kill her child for what she believes is a greater political good — is at once anomalous and typical of the wild ambitions of this rich period in cinema history.

"Hollywood Before the Code" opens with Dangerous Female and Fog Over Frisco (Friday, May 23), and continues with Kongo and Freaks (Saturday, May 24), Riptide and Private Lives (Sunday, May 25), 42nd Street and Footlight Parade Street and Footlight Parade (Monday, May 26), Downstairs and Fast Workers (Tuesday, May 27), Midnight Mary and The Strange Love of Molly Louvain (Wednesday, May 28), Possessed and Faithless (Thursday, May 29), Tarzan and His Mate and Black Moon (Friday, May 30), Beast of the City and The Secret Six (Saturday, May 31), and Baby Face and Skyscraper Souls (Sunday, June 1). The Roxie is at 3117 16th St. For information, call 863-1087.

Alone in the dark

John Leguizamo, Oscar Wilde get one-man shows

by Chad Jones

Leguizamo was in town he was making the thriller The with Robert DeNiro and Wesley Snipes. Work kept him pretty busy, but he did have time to take in one of the city's most famous sites: the Mitchell Brothers' O'Farrell Theater. Leguizamo is back in town and back in a theater, only this time the stage is legit. His third one-man show, Freak: A Semi-Demi-Quasi-Pseu-Freak: A Semi-Demi-Quasi-Pseudo Autobiography, opened this week at the Theatre On the Square. The 32-year-old movie star, whose biggest star turn was his portrayal of drag queen Chi-Chi Rodriguez in To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything, Julie Newmar, says the new show's title refers to his own self-described freakish, outcast nature.

"We all go along in our lives

"We all go along in our lives thinkin' we're normal," Leguizamo tells me on the phone from his San Francisco hotel room. "We think we fit in, but we don't. No one fits in! We all have some twisted, hidden secret in our closets."

Leguizamo says Freak follows his life up until age 24, when he started to make it in show business. He's not burning any bridges, but he says he's taken out slander insurance because the characters are real people from his

characters are real people from his own life.

"The roughest stuff in the show has to do with my father, who hasn't seen it," says the actor. "My mom's seen it and she says, 'John, I don't know why you call me and disco you call me a disco queen. I only went to the disco once a week. **Curtain Up!**

the disco once a week. A disco queen would go everyday. I was a good mother. A cousin of mine sawit and said, "What are you talking about grandma drinking? She didn't drink. She sipped." I had to put that into the show."

The half-Colombian, half-Puerto Rican actor says he has fallen in love with San Francisco and is especially fond of the diversity here, in particular his large and is especially fond of the diversity here, in particular his large gay following. "When I was doing Mambo Mouth, there were a lot of gay people coming," says the actor, who was born and raised in New York. "When Manny the Fanny [a transvestite character] would come out, they would stomp and scream. It was gospel, it was beautiful. Then with Wong Foo, I really started to notice the gay audience."

ence."

Always game for new experi-Always game for new experiences, Leguizamo says he enjoyed wearing drag in Wong Foo, and that he even tried to make it once with his girlfriend in his Chi-Chi get-up. "It worked for me," he says, "but not for her. I always wanted to see a lesbian-lesbian scene, but I never imagined I'd be the other lesbian."

Whatever his future holds, Leguizamo says he plans to stay

Leguizamo says he plans to stay square with the law because he knows he'd be "hot stuff" behind bars. Still, were it to happen, Leguizamo says he could turn the experience into "good material. I could call it Prison Bitch."

John Leguizamo's Freak con-



John Leguizamo in one of his less successful ventures, The Pest

tinues at the Theatre On the

The Wilde night is calling Richard Bernier and George Pelham are two theatre-loving gay men who went their separate

ways a couple of decades ago. Now, sev-eral careers later, several recovery programs later, and practically several lifetimes later, the two men find themselves together again, this time as roommates and busi-

ness partners.
Their first pro-

Their first project is the one-man show Oscar Wilde: Diversions and Delights, a 20-year-old play by the aptly named John Gay (a misnomer; the playwright is straight) that celebrates Oscar Wilde in his later, post-jail years. Their show opened on May 19 at the Stage Door Theatre, the 100th anniversary of Wilde's release from Reading Gaol. Bay Area favorite Ken Gaol. Bay Area favorite Ken

Theatrical pursuits seemed a natural for the two men who first became friends in a college production of Twelfth Night more than 30 years ago. Pelham played Malvolio, Bernier was Orsino. Today, the two have formed Tanta productions and are back in the theater and also sharing an apartment. "We did not want to be the picture of the aging homosexual," says Bernier, who also runs the box office at American Conservatory Theatre. "We were not about to let each other end up in some room in the Tenderloin alone."

"It's important to understand Theatrical pursuits seemed a

"It's important to understand our relationship," Bernier contin-ues. "We're together — not in the Biblical sense — and we're never Biblical sense — and we're neve sure if we will survive living to

gether in our later years."
Pelham, a retired high school
English and drama teacher, interjects: "Yes, we're more like aging sisters."

For a first-time theatrical ef-

fort, the partners have gone all out, so to speak. While Bernier handles the money and technical matters, Pelham has taken over the redecoration of the Stage Door Theatre. The lobby, formerly bland and workman-like, is now a palace of Victorian splen-dor, all of it, Pelham claims, scavenged from flea markets and thrift



Ken Ruta as Oscar Wilde

Aside from reading books and getting advice from friends, the novice producers knew very little novice producers knew very little about the art of producing and are learning the craft as they go. "We had no idea how much it would cost," Pelham admits. "I still have no idea because I'm played off as some dizzy queen who doesn't know anything about anything." anything.

anything."
"Oh, you know the budget,"
Bernier scolds.
"Yes, I know the budget, but I
don't know if we're over or under
or what," Pelham counters.
"I don't want you to worry
you," Bernier soothes. "You just go
decorate."

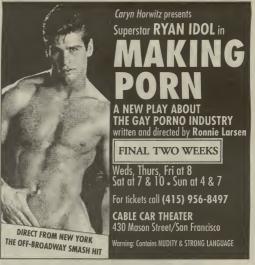
decorate.

Oscar would be proud. Oscar Wilde: Diversions and Delights continues at the Stage Door Theatre through June 29. Call 788-9453 for information.

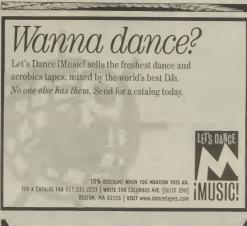


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Protean Picasso

'Picasso: the Early Years' reveals painter's earliest works

by Will Shank

s there anything new to be said about the life and work of Pablo Ruiz Picasso? Every curator who has ever mounted an exhibition of Picasso's work has tried, with greater or lesser degrees of success, to answer that question. The answer provided by

question. The answer provided by Picasso: The Early Years, a traveling exhibition of early Picasso works currently up at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, can only be a qualified "yes."

Less than a year after the Museum of Modern Art's Picasso and Portraiture show captivated New York audiences, the National Gallery and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston have assembled a Gallery and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston have assembled a focus exhibition of works from Picasso's first 14 years as an artist. Most of the works in the current exhibition — works executed in Picasso's native Spain, and subsequently in his adopted home, France—appeared first in the galleries of the granddaddy of all Picasso shows, Pablo Picasso, at NY-MOMA in 1980.

Borrowing heavily from the

Borrowing heavily from the holdings of Barcelona's Museu Pi-casso and Paris' Musée Picasso, the exhibition brings to the American public some of the artist's leastknown images. For those who have never seen the earliest works have never seen the earliest works of the young Spaniard, the first galleries may prove a revelation. Trained in the most academic style imaginable, the youthful genius first produced portraits and figure studies of unsurpassed finesse, followed by a period of exuberantly colored celebrations of Spanish themes (bullfights, sultry señoritas) in a warm and distinctly Iberthemes (bullfights, sultry señori-tas) in a warm and distinctly Iber-ian palette. The viewer is also af-forded the chance to see the young Picasso experimenting with a va-riety of styles in imitation of his predecessors. Among these fasci-nating hybrids, there are Picasso as

Picasso as Cézanne, and Picasso as Van Gogh. The inevitable dark turn comes during the Blue Period, a stylistic era which has been exhaustively examined elsewhere. Moved to melancholic introspection by the untimely death of a young friend, the 20-year-old artist began obsessing over weighty matters of life and death. The paintings are those of a young man who has discovered early on the presentimiento tragico de la vida; he uses all of his considerable creative energy to rail against the tides of fate and the inevitability of death. Some of the better-known works of the Blue Period (e.g. the National Gallery's own Tragedy, from 1903) come off rather badly as compositions, particularly when presented in the context of some little scene

Among the true revelations in the exhibition is *Two Women at a Bar*, from the Hiroshima Museum of Art, a Gauguin-like composi-tion which fills its frame with the sensuous curves that define its

positive and negative blue spaces. The Rose Period follows with its harlequins and saltimbanques and a series of nudes, male and female, whose pure sensuality is un-interrupted by the distortions that will characterize later works. Among the pleasures of touring this exhibition is the discovery of



Woman in a Chemise, 1904, by Pablo Picasso

the first signs of those elements that would later become constant features of his work — mismatched sets of eyes and caryatidlike nudes.

The other great pleasure is the

opportunity to encounter wellopportunity to encounter well-known images within their chronological context. The National Gallery's own *Portrait of Pere Mañchon*, usually seen hanging in

page 55.▶

PopSOCALs



Ithough pop influences in contemporary art are hardly surprising, it's fascinating to chart the ever-mutating ways these influences bubble up in the products of younger artists. The paintings and mixed-media works of Alicia McCarthy and Scott Trattner at the Lab find two artists entertaining pop in divergent but not completely dissimilar ways — both artist's take cues from Southern California pop art. McCarthy's doodly drawings, paintings, and a wall installation of labels from cardboard fruit boxes words a their torse furthers executly with the brighty closed. sexude a thrift store funkiness, especially with her brightly-colored geometric abstractions painted on weathered pieces of wood. Her pieces seem to be inspired by the multi-colored string art so popular in the '70s, but they also show the distress of what looks like a hard life on sun-baked streets.

hard life on sun-baked streets.

Trattner takes a more squeaky clean approach to SOCAL pop. His paintings are flat in perspective and nod to Ed Ruscha, David Hockney, and UCLA, where this recent Art Institute alumni will soon head for grad school. His pieces here are fresh and a little persers. The artist himself appears in many of them — as a coed in a yahoo's baggy shorts — including the evocative "Scott Trattner waiting to get kicked in the nuts." In an accompanying performance video, even the sound of a female foot to his athletic-cupped groin is a resonant pop.

—Glen Helfand

Rabbit habit

Nayland Blake's 'April Hare' at Gallery Paule Anglim

by Steven Jenkins

April is the cruelest month, breeding / Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing / Memory and desire, stirring / Dull roots with

-The Waste Land, T.S. Eliot

f April is indeed the cruelest month, as Eliot so eloquently wrote, then Nayland Blake beat the tax-paying, spring-cleaning the tax-paying, spring-cleaning blues by mixing memory and dessire in a month-long burst of creative energy. While the rest of us were fudging deductions and hoovering the coat closet, Blake rummaged around his new studio in Brooklyn and produced one artwork every day throughout the month. The 30 pieces that resulted from this burst of energy, all of varying quality and appeal, are on view at the artist's mixed-media solo exhibition April Hare, currently at Gallery Paule Anglim.

April proved an inspiring

April proved an inspiring month for Blake, perhaps because his career-long preoccupation with sardonic rabbits and cute lit-tle bunnies naturally thrived around the Easter holiday. Yet Blake isn't concerned with reli-gious allegory or egg-hunt polemics; rather, he pulled rabbits out of the hat each day last month to address juicier issues of racial and sexual identity.

and sexual identity.

Before moving to New York last year, Blake was a conspicuous figure on the Bay Area art scene, earning praise as an influential artist, writer, teacher, and curator (along with Lawrence Rinder, he put together the sprawling "In A Different Light" exhibition of queer art at the Berkeley Art Museum in 1995). April Hare is Blake's first local show since relocating. As evidenced by the smart but slapdash new work, it doesn't seem as if the Bast Coast has dramatically altered his heady thematically altered his heady thematic concerns or bits-and-pieces aesthetic. Blake is a tireless idea man, and his brand of artmaking emphasizes concept over crafts-manship. While the (deliberate?) lack of technical finesse in his work often serves to emphasize its down-and-dirty social commen-



Double Surrender, 1997, mixed media, by Nayland Blake.

tary, Blake's daily pranks and doodles in *April Hare* mostly seem like throwaways. His funny bunnies provocatively hop around the exhibition's signposts of race, sex, and art, yet when conceptually overbaked and aesthetically underrooked they make for a curidercooked they make for a curi-ously bland rabbit stew. Blake's use of the rabbit motif

in his work began many years ago, when he chanced upon a bunny suit while searching for a costume to wear during a performance piece. As the light-skinned child

playful performance-art disguise

challenged stereotypical notions of racial identity, represented by

characters such as Uncle Wiggly and Br'er Rabbit. Blake mocked the caricature of cheerful subservience by dressing up in a bunny suit sadistically outfitted with gag and blindfold, and offer-ing himself for rent by the hour to gallery visitors. Always outspoken as a decidedly queer artist, Blake also began to use his rabbit per-sona to skewer societally coded perceptions of gay men as sexual-ly promiscuous animals who fuck like bunnies.

This is unquestionably rich material, and it has served Blake material, and it has served Blake well in the past. In April Hare, however, Blake's sharp points are dulled by repetition and sloppy execution. The show is bracketed by two target paintings — the first on a mirror, the second on burnt cork — that place both artist and viewer in the bull's-eye. artist and viewer in the bull's-eye. The remaining works feature renderings of rabbits in the form of drawings, stuffed toys, candles, and strung-up pelts. Blake frequently assaults his furry little subjects, chopping off their ears in the sinister Two Who Asked For It, hanging a noose-necked pair in Two Mopes Relating, and torturously elongating a stuffed Bugs in Grey Bunny Made as Tall as Me by Stretching its Neck.

Perhaps feeling pressured by the exhibition's work-a-day conceit, Blake is by turn clever and

ceit, Blake is by turn clever and dim-witted. While certain pieces such as *Double Surrender* (a wax bunny waving two white flags)

VIRGIN MEGASTORE



Navland Blake in 1991

and Bunny Vision (a rabbit figurine perched on a Popsicle stick urine perched on a Popsicle stick in front of a camera lens) effectively comment on racial representation, tossed-off works like Crooked Eyes — White Eyes (a collection of rusty bottle tops), Erased Space Jam Bootleg (a videotape box hanging on the wall), and No Art Today (scribbles on an old poetcard) surgest that Bloke and No Art Ioday (scribbles on an old postcard) suggest that Blake might as well have taken a few days off. It's likely that Blake has exhausted his rabbit habit, particularly judging by Shit Molding Kit, his production for April 19 consisting of a bunny-shaped mold, a spoon, and an unclean chamber not As Rues Bunny would say in pot. As Bugs Bunny would say in dismissal of such distressingly juvenile work, "That's all, folks." ▼

Nayland Blake: April Hare is on view at Gallery Paule Anglim, 14 Geary Street, San Francisco through May 31. Call (415) 433-2710.



Beauty and the bummer

'Ciao, Marcello' charms, 'Sergeant Early's Dream' fizzles

by Stephanie von Buchau

he San Francisco Ballet was forced to present its last two programs of the season in a mid-May heat wave at the Palace of Fine Arts. I don't know how the dancers did it; the audience wilted visibly and audibly. Stuffy, airless, with a gross Cinerama stage and a minuscule pit, this has to be the ugliest, most uncomfortable place in the Bay Area to listen to music and watch dance. So trust Val Caniparoli to deposit a gift-warpped box of bon-bons on the Palace stage and dare us to complain. I always find Caniparoli's work droll, if musically slight, but it isn't a crime to be P.G. Wodehouse instead of Dostoevski. Caniparoli comes as close as anyone in America to being a tasteful maker of agreeable dance theater that amuses rather than provokes. Ciao, Marcello was conceived

Ciao, Marcello was conceived before Marcello Mastroianni recently passed away, but he Italian actor's death obviously increased the amount of affection tinged with regret with which choreographer Caniparoli (himself of Italian descent) views him. Multiple Marcellos, all dressed alike by Sandra Woodall, dance to the music of Nino Rota, with special homage to the films of Fellini in which Mastroianni starred. More tenuous is the actor's connection to Visconti's neo-realist Rocco and His Brothers, which starred Alain Delon not Mastroianni, and Fellini's Juliet of the Spirits, which starred the director's wife. But Rota scored both movies and a good choreographer always takes his cue from the music, here played by a jazzy combo in addi-



Joanna Berman and Yuri Possokhov in the San Francisco Ballet's production of Ciao, Marcello.

tion to the ballet orchestra, both presided over with uninhibited glee by Emil de Cou. The subtitle "His Lovers and Wives" is another less than factual sign that Caniparoli is doing impressions, not biography. Like many Italian males, Mastroianni had one wife but many mistresses.

In any case, the lead female roles in *Giao, Marcello* are strong ones, democratically divided between the blond bombshell (Evelyn Gisneros in Anita Ekberg drag) and the sensual brunette (Joanna Berman in a becoming bubble

'do). Cisneros was paired in a waltz from Amarcord with Marcello no. 3 (Chidozie Nzerem), who finally rewarded Helgi Tomasson's faith with a sizzling performance. He's kind of limp and behind the beat in classical ballet, but his linebacker's build and smooth moves make him one of the few men in the company who is up to Cisneros' highly dramatic, externalized style. Even hotter was Marcello no. 1 (Yuri Possokhov) doubling with Berman in a waltz from La Dolce Vita. With the announcement that Possokhov's partner,

Elizabeth Loscavio, is leaving SFB, dare we hope that Berman will finally get the strong partner she deserves in Possokhov? Let somebody make a powerful modern work for the two of them, and audiences will really have something to sweat about.

Speaking of Loscavio and partnering, she appeared with David Palmer in Tomasson's slight Valses Poeticos, which may very well have provided the best ten minutes of dancing I saw all season. He doesn't have to try to be manly, the way some of those poor boys did in the unsettled revival of Paul Taylor's Sunset. The homoerotic content in Taylor's work is clearer if you think of them as soldiers who bond from necessity and the terror of the coming war than as

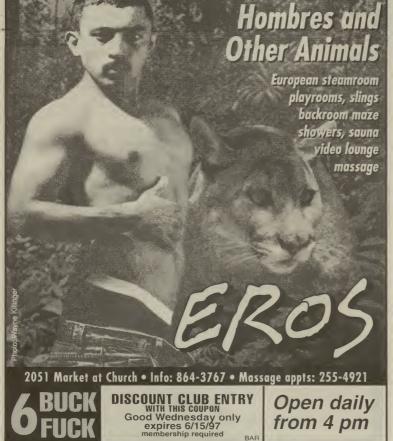
gender-confused adolescents not sure of what they want. Palmer's manners are gracious, his partnering impeccable, and he's a handsome devil besides. Loscavio did what she does best: flawless chainé turns, gorgeous lines, beautiful balances, expressive arabesque — in other words, dancing not acting.

I don't know if I'd have made it through Program Five if it had been as hot in the theater as it had been for Program Six. Five began promisingly enough with Muriel Maffre's splendid extensions in Balanchine's Rubies. But Cisneros and Anthony Randazzo worked way too hard in the central pas de deux. Peter Martins' The Waltz Project delivered one delicious shock — corps dancer Julie Diana, whose contemporary sparkle and sexy legs made even her saturnine partner, Damian Smith, smile as he hoisted her around in waltzes by Robert Moran and Philip Glass.

Smith, smile as he hoisted her around in waltzes by Robert Moran and Philip Glass.

Unfortunately this program ended with a total bummer, a revival of Sergeant Early's Dream, a 1984 "ethnic British" ballet by Christopher Bruce of the Rambert Dance Company. Dreary Celtic music (my companion groaned after the fifth number, "No wonder these people are so depressed!"), ugly "Irish" clichés (drunken men and sexually desperate women), and redundant mimetic narrative (who the hell cares about Barbara Allen at this juncture?) wasted the energetic dancing of Palmer, Stephen Legate, Christopher Stowell, and especially Deirdre Chapman, who, virtually unnoticed, also took over handsomely as the lead girl in Sunset. ▼

SFB's Program Five runs through May 25 at the Center for the Arts. For tickets and information, call 865-2000.







Higher and higher

The Parsons Dance Company

by Matthew Kennedy

ans of the dance should take note that New York choreo-grapher David Parsons has settled into the Marines Memorial Theatre for a two-week run that ends May 25. Only 37, the chore-ographer has already forged a company of in-ternational reputation.

His nine dancers are sleek, sexy, savvy, and impecca-bly well-re-

Like his mentor Paul Tay lor, Parsons is a showman, void of the cere-bral abstractions of

Cunningham or the primeval angst of Martha Graham. But he differs from Taylor in key ways. He does not succumb to pander-ing and condescension, nor does he trot out stereotypes of perky women and virile men. What one notices above all in Parsons' world is muscular dancing and clarity of technique. technique.

The first part of the evening

The first part of the evening features three short works held together by that glorious rarity of dance concerts today — live music. The Turtle Island String Quartet provides sounds that are by turns bluesy and classical, funky and hip. *Bachiana* opens the performance and, if nothing else, demonstrates how blurry the lines between modern dance and lines between modern dance and classical ballet have become in American choreography. With music by J.S. Bach — how choreographers do love him! — there are enough relevés and piques to satisfy balletomanes, but piggybacking and repeated crooks of the wrists herald a break from convention and evoke the loopy humor of a Saturday morning

Warner Bros. cartoon

that conjures images and ideas about na-

ture and nature rit-In Rise and Fall,

movement is rendered infinitely delightful by crabwalks, wiggles of hips, and regular doses of unex-pected movement. One

pected movement. One woman is dragged across the floor in an otherwise ordinary circle of dancers. The highlight of *Rise and Fall* features a smashing duet for two women, compact fireball Elizabeth. Vecant September 1988 of the second of t

abeth Koepen and reedy, lithe Charissa Barton. Both dancers hit every cue with preternatural ac-

No Parsons performance is complete without *Caught*, his signature solo. With a strobe timed to the second, the dancer spends the second, the dancer spends

six punishing minutes leaping in synch with the light, which creates a physical trompe l'oeil of the dancer flying, walking on air, and generally defying gravity. When the strobe is turned off and the stree light come un the affect is

stage lights come up, the effect is

Union is a slow-motion study of bodies tumbling over each other in pools of overhead light on an otherwise dark stage. Par-sons dresses his dancers in Donna Karan costumes that leave bodies partially naked and women bar-ing one or both breasts. It's a tribute to Parsons' good taste that he does not exploit nudity for shock value. Instead, the piece revels in movement

as startling as any exhibit at the Exploratorium.

Nascimento provides a strong

finish for the program. Parsons' love for skipping, circles, and flight are on full display here as the dancers eat up the space like starving carnivores. Bouncing around the stage in bright spumoni colors, the troupe makes

every moment a celebration of movement. when

> think Parsons offering mere feel good stuff, the movement suddenly slow down as the stage and the dancers blue light

against a rich orange backdrop. Then, all too soon, the dance is

Parsons is more than a competent dancer maker. He is a sharp businessman with a knack for finding strong collaborators. The prolific and brilliant Howell Binkley is his lighting designer. His dancers are dressed by the likes of Karan, William Ivey Long, and Woody Allen stalwart Santo Loquasto. And the company members, who come in all sizes, colors, and temperaments, are gorgeous. If the Marines Memorial stage sometimes appeared too narrow for the gymnastics Parsons and his dancers offer, it wasn't their fault; these dancers need a more expansive stage. It's as if they were made to fly.

The Parsons Dance Company is at the Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter Street through May 25. For tickets and information, call 771-6900 or 762-BASS.

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Painful reminiscence



oe Goode's latest theatre piece, Four Feelings, performed earlier this week and last at Cowell Theatre, begins with Goode himself pantomiming a man's memories of the frustrations he experienced as a child at the family dinner table. In another sequence, Liz Burritt plays a woman who can't accept the life she is living as her own. A vividly realized series of soprano vocalizations by Marit Brook-Kothlow accompanies both sequences, imbuing the work with an appropriate undertone of desperation. The focus of the piece is memory — how the body stores it, struggles with it, and sometimes builds a life unwittingly around it. An impassioned and acrobatic dance, in which company member Felipe Barrueto and acrobatic dance, in which company member Felipe Barrueto Cabello and guest artist Mercy Sidbury attempt to let go of each other's hands but are unable, vividly articulates the whole work's struggle-to-the-death-with-it ethos.

---Jerry Metzker

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by Patrick D. Hoctel

Nazimova: A Biography by Gavin Lambert; Knopf, \$32.50

ovie mogul Darryl F. Zanuck labeled her "the quintessential Queen of the Movie Whores," and in the early days of cinema, Alla Nazimova, dubbed "Nazzy" by the tabloids of the time, was indeed the assunta diva of the silver screen, commanding at assunta dwa of the silver screen, commanding at one point a salary higher than America's Sweetheart Mary Pickford. In Gavin Lambert's exciting new bio of the screen and stage star, who bowled over America with her bold America with her bold portrayals of Ibsen hero-ines, he meticulously traces the awe-inspiring trajectory of her life and career, from abused child



career, from abused child and sometime prostitute in Tsarist Russia to the toast of Broadway and film goddess in the States. Along the way, while also accounting for her professional triumphs and disappointments, he details her many loves (mostly women) and her long pretend marriage to a man who basically bled her dry in return for being her beard. What emerges is a portrait of a woman who was often forced to hide or deny parts of herself — her Jewishness, her lesbianism — to pursue her consuming passion, her art. Madame, as she was known to intimates, was a volatile, dynamic creature unfortunately doomed to disillusionment in her private creature unfortunately doomed to disillusionment in her private life but who found a very real recompense in acting — so much so that it became her great, true love, Kudos to Gavin Lambert for rescuing Nazimova from the ashes and putting her back on a pedestal where she belongs, clay feet and all.

King of the stills

by Tavo Amador

Hurrell's Hollywood Portraits by Mark A. Vieira; Harry N. Abrams Inc. Publishers, \$39.95

f the Hollywood film industry of the '20s and '30s did not in-vent glamour, it certainly helped the concept gain currency. Fan magazines like *Photoplay* and *Modern Screen* also played a significant part in getting the movie-going public to believe that their favorite personalities were close to divine. But no matter what the magazines said about the stars, it divine. But no matter what the magazines said about the stars, it was the photographs they showed of the stars that convinced readers that Hollywood was the new Olympus. The greatest and most influential photographer in Hollywood was George Hurrell, and in Hurrells Hollywood Portraits, local writer, photographer, and film historian Mark A. Vieira shows why. Hurrell, Vieira writes, wielded lights the way Vermeer used a brush, and his fine art sensibility and creativity revolutionized portrait photography, creating a standard for studio images that has never been equaled. In the process, the artist immortalized himself and his subjects.

Norma Shearer, Jean Harlow, Constance Bennett, Myrna Loy, Clark Gable, Lon Chaney, Ramon Novarro, and Hurrell's favorite, Joan Crawford, were among the many celebrities who worked with the photographer through-

with the photographer through-out the '30s and early '40s. Shear-er was one of Hurrell's most pli-



Jean Harlow, from a spring 1935 photo session.

ant and enigmatic subjects. The actress, married to the studio's head of Production, Irving Thalberg, was determined to prove she could play sexy roles. She arrived at Hurrell's studio and together the two produced a series of stills that turned Shearer into an astonishingly seductive woman. After seeing them, Thalberg relented and allowed the actress to film *The Divorcee* (1930), in which her well-bred but sexually aggressive woman created a sensation and

well-bred but sexually aggressive woman created a sensation and won her a Best Actress Oscar. Joan Crawford was Hurrell's most frequent subject. She was the easiest to film, writes Vieira, because her face photographed the same from all angles. Naturally, there were minor imperfec-tions — for instance, the bridge of her nose was so fine that the nostrils could appear too wide, and her right jaw was a little heavier than the left. But the beautifully sculpted contours of her face, the

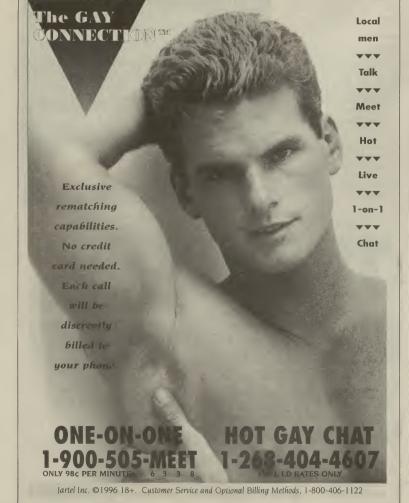
large eyes and generous mouth, and her enthusiasm for posing, and her enthusiasm for posing, had breathtaking results. The book's cover features a magnificent double-portrait of Crawford with soon-to-be husband Franchot Tone.

Greta Garbo, on the other hand, did not like working for Hurrell and only sat for him once, with possetbales capacid results.

with nonetheless splendid results. He had less success later, as a free-lancer, with Bette Davis. The ambitious queen of Warner Brothers considered herself above "glamour" (she did not like to compete in events where she could not win), and even Hurrell's genius could not transform her into a

beauty.

The book covers Hurrell's Hol-The book covers Hurrell's Hollywood career through 1942, and, thankfully, includes photographs not only of Hollywood legends, but a few of the unjustly forgotten players as well, including Ann Sothern and John Payne.





Norma Shearer

London Suede

■ Arts cover

best record to date.

"It's a bit of a comeback," admits Osman. "But at the same time, they still feel like Suede songs. There's something about Suede that's bigger than anyone in it. So I don't feel like there was a big break. But it did feel like doing

big break. But it did feel like doing a debut record again, which is quite a nice thing."

Besides Oakes, the band has an additional member in keyboarist Neil Codling, who is drummer Simon Gilbert's cousin. "He was at rehearsal one day," explains Osman. "And he hung around and played with us a lot, and just kind of bumbled into the band. It just happened one day!"

while the new record has been an international hit, Americans have been slow at getting Suede's message. "We've gotten really big

America, there seems to be this America, there seems to be this thriving alternative scene, and I don't think we really fit into that. I've never felt like we're alternative — especially in Britain, where we've got a tradition of the eccentric outsider becoming a huge pop star."

pop star."
Of course, terms like "eccentric outsider" can sometimes be just so much thinly-veiled gay coding, and perhaps what makes Suede seem so "alternative" in America is the band's not inconsideration of the property spicuous queer sensibility. Though Suede has only one openly gay member, Simon openly gay member, Simon Gilbert, his presence in the band, in tandem with singer Brett Anderson's fey affectations, coy lyrics, and occasional references to his own supposed bisexuality, has attracted a queer following. Still, as lavender-friendly as the band may at times seem, Coming Up's lyrics are curiously devoid of overt queerness. Gone are the

"Brett always tried to write songs that were for everyone. And I think people almost always took that the wrong way, seeing it as this desire to shock. That pissed him off, because the things he's writing about aren't shocking. It got quite frustrating."

in Europe and Asia and places we've never been," says Osman. "So if conquering America means spending six months touring there, we're not going to do it. It frustrates me, because a lot of people like our records — but if people like our records — but if they aren't getting played on the radio or MTV, people aren't going to know us. And I'm not going to bust my balls to change that. "I mean, in Europe, we just get played on pop radio. There aren't really alternative music stations, so we get played next to Mariah

so we get played next to Mariah Carey and all that stuff. But in

Night moves

BOOKS

days when Anderson would sing things like, "We kissed in his room to a popular tune," a line from Suede's first single, "The Drowners."

"It always frustrates me when people ask me if it's a gay love song," says Osman. "I mean, it could be — but it's so open. Brett always tried to write songs that were for everyone. And I think people always took that." people almost always took that the wrong way, seeing it as this de-sire to shock. That pissed him off, because the things he's writing about aren't shocking. It got quite

Osman, laughing.
And when asked where his fahuses. "The crowd there has always been the best. It seems to be the place where people understand us the most."

out show this Friday, May 23, at The Fillmore, 1805 Geary; a free show on Sunday, May 25, 12 p.m., at Justin Herman Plaza.



The London Suede: Simon Gilbert, Brett Anderson, Neil Codling, Mat Osman, and Richard Oakes.

frustrating."

American critics, from both the straight and gay media, have accused the band in the past of using their androgyny and flamboyance as gimmicks. "A lot of people, especially in America, told us that we should tone it down," explains Osman. "As if it were just something we could switch off! But it's something that comes very natural to us." natural to us."

natural to us."

Given America's general indifference to Suede, the band wasn't planning to tour the States. But when their record label insisted, Suede agreed, on the condition that they could pick the cities they'd play. Hence, Suede's American tour, consists of only four. ican tour consists of only four stops: New York, Boston, Los An-geles, and San Francisco. "We just got a list of all the places we were never going to play again and that's all that was left!" explains

vorite place to play in America is, Osman's answer is not surprising. "San Francisco! It's true!" he en-

The London Suede plays a sold-

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The Story of the Night, by Colm Toibin; Henry Holt, \$23.95

ntil I picked up *The Story of the Night* (lured by its noirish cover), I'd never heard of Colm Toibin (above). My loss. Toibin is well-known in Ireland, both for his journalism and two previous novels. His new novel is distinguished from his earlier books in at least two respects — it is set in Argentina rather than

books in at least two respects — it is set in Argentina rather than Europe, and its protagonist is gay.

Toibin's story centers on Richard Garay, a half-Argentinean, half-English adolescent who seems to belong to no one. The gradual account of his coming out, set against the ominous background of the "disappearances" of the '70s and the capitalist makeover of the '80s, is infused with a hushed tone of melancholy and loss that accentuates the eroticism at its core. Toibin's antipodal perspective transmutes Richard's familiar tale of love lost, found, and lost again into something distant, rich, and strange. Highly recommended. ▼

-Jim Coughenour



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Musical mayhem

The Alban Berg Quartet

by Timothy Pfaff

t's only right that Schubert should get pride of place in 1997, the bicentenary of the composer's birth. What's wrong is the kind of abuse heaped upon his music that listeners encountered at Herbst Theatre last Friday, where the celebrated Alban Berg Quartet performed an all-Schubert recital. All things considered, the concert reconfirmed the composer's reconfirmed the composer's mastery of the form, but left one wondering if this quartet was experiencing an off night or, like so many other venerable string quartets, beginning a sad de cline.

It couldn't have helped that It couldn't have helped that sauna-like temperatures prevailed in the theatre. String instruments don't like that and neither, presumably, do jet-setting musicians. Under the circumstances, the quartet's decision to forego the repeats the composer favored — and prescribed — seemed a sound idea. But even making allowances for accidental circumstances, the But even making allowances for accidental circumstances, the sweaty struggle with the music that transpired onstage all evening was disconcerting.

The program itself had some regrettable (and surely unforeseen) consequences for the musicians, violinists Günter Pichler

next page



The Alban Berg Quartet

Walls of sound

Jessye Norman, 'Ma Vlast'

by Philip Campbell

he 1996-97 San Francisco Symphony subscription sea-son ends this week with per-formances of Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 3, featuring sopra-no Michele DeYoung. Last week brought another soprano to
Davies Symphony Hall to sing
Mahler, but she's a lot more famous than DeYoung.
As classical music superstars
go, Jessye Norman stands out as
compthing of an icon. The bits

go, Jessye Norman stands out as something of an icon. The big voice, grand style, the big hair, all have helped make her a diva in the eyes of an adoring public. Still, ru-

eyes of an adoring public. Still, rumors that the singer is experiencing diminished vocal powers have begun circulating, and one wonders how much longer she'll be before the public eye.

Happily, dissenters were the minority opinion after last week's concerts. It's true the soprano may not sound as good as she once did, but Norman is wisely choosing suitable material to compensate for infirmities, and, even if sate for infirmities, and, even if her performance of songs from Mahler's Das Knaben Wunderhorn Malner's Das Knaben Winnernorn didn't quite deserve the rapturous response it received, her glowing and intensely felt rendering of Wagner's Wesendonck Lieder did. Resplendent in a moss green

Resplendent in a moss green gown with black patterning and a single large brooch, a noticeably slimmer Norman graciously accepted the adulation of her many fans, who frequently applauded between songs. The floral tributes at concert's end were obviously personal thanks from followers

who could care less if their diva has begun scooping for notes and displaying a sometimes mile-wide wobble. The sound is still pretty spectacular, and her niche in the pantheon of great singers remains

pantheon of great singers remains unchallenged.

The previous week brought conductor Libor Pesek back to Davies Hall for some more of his signature central European repertoire. The results yielded predictably pleasant results.

Pesek served as principal conductor and artistic advisor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic for

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic for ten years. He has also been conductor-in-residence of the Czech Philharmonic for 15 years. These are not exactly glamorous jobs, but neither are they backwater positions. Pesek has wisely used hese posts to make a name for himself as a master interpreter of works by Dvorak, Suk, Janacek, and now, Smetana. Two weeks ago, the conductor

led the orchestra in a memorable performance of Smetana's big-scale symphonic cycle Ma Vlast (My Country). It's easy to feel overwhelmed by this piece overwhelmed by this piece—there is simply too much music for one sitting. So, to avoid tedi-um, Pesek performed the work's six symphonic poems in two sets of three separated by Bela Bartok's Rhapsody No. 1 for Violin and Orchestra. It wasn't a bad idea, as it allowed listeners to assess more easily the structure and musical. easily the structure and musical integrity of the various parts of Smetana's glorious patriotic tone

painting.

Violinist Gil Shaham was the soloist in the Rhapsody. He



Soprano Jessye Norman

proved a sympathetic executant of provide a sympatite execution to the composer's tart melodies and quirky rhythmic turns. For a per-former of such promise to appear in anything less than one of Bar-tok's big three concertos strikes this listener as a statement of real artistic security. He easily put across a work that trades as much in subtlety and ambiguity as it does in sheer bravura. The audi-ence sensed the achievement here and awarded the young master a

hearty ovation.

The orchestra played superbly throughout the evening, as it has since the end of the organization's Perhaps the musicians are making up for lost time, or maybe they're just happy to be working with such confident leaders, but whatever the reason, we are reaping the benefits. Regular SF Symphony patrons who are bemoaning the end of the musical season can at least look forward to the exciting programs of the SF Symphony's Sacred and Profane Fectival, scheduled for June 12-28 at Davies Symphony Hall.

Easy listening

Andsnes stays mostly on the surface

by Timothy Pfaff

f program and couture could alone make a recital great, Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes might have given one of the season's best performances at his Herbst Theatre recital last week. Despite a provocative program and a natty bit of formal wear, however, the handsome 27-year-old pianist only partially supported his reputation as one of the more important pianists of his generation.

Andsnes, who made his San Andsnes, who made his ban Francisco recital debut with this performance, has appeared in the Bay Area before, with the San Francisco Symphony (a "Rach 3" with Herbert Blomstedt) and in a duo recital with violinist Christ-ian Tetzlaf. He has also made a name for himself with distinctive name for nimself with distinctive recordings of off-beat piano repertoire, including Janacek, Grieg, and Carl Nielsen. Last Tuesday he inserted two bonafide Tuesday he inserted two bonafide recital rarities — Swiss composer Frank Martin's 1973 "Fantasy on Flamenco Rhythms" and five of Antonin Dvorak's "Poetic Tone Pictures," Op. 85 — between bookends of lesser-known Beethoven, namely the Sonata in B-flat, Op. 22, the G-Minor Fantasy, Op. 77, and the famous but still seldom-heard E-flat Major Sonata, Les Adieux, Op. 81a.

Only in the Martin, in which nonstop prestidigitation conspires

with music of warmth, color, and considerable passion, did Andsnes fully deliver on the promise of his menu. The adroit hand-over-hand work that characterized his elegant playing all evening found its most appropriate metier in this fantasy on rhythms the composer encountered in his daughter's flamenco dancing. The music found the pianist on his surest footing, as it were

No one would actually confuse No one would actually confuse this music for flamenco. It doesn't emulate that sound world the way Astor Piazzola's tango music, however elevated, does. A listener coming to it cold, without the benefit of program notes, would have a far easier time locating the piece's influences in the central Furnnean keyboard literature of

piece's influences in the central European keyboard literature of the late 20th century. Andsnes made it spellbinding.

The strong feeling for Czech music the pianist displays in his Janacek recording resurfaced in the Dvorak tone pictures. While it's true that this composer is not often associated with the piano, his Opus 85 falls solidly into a long Slavic tradition of "picture" and "character" pieces (Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, originally written for solo tion, originally written for solo piano, is the best-known and arguably the finest example of the genre). Dvorak nailed the genre, and Tuesday Andsnes nailed the

The atmospheric opening of "Twilight Way" was rendered with

uncommon delicacy. The piece later indulges in some huge, ringing sonorities, and Andsnes found apt connective tissue for the sections without resorting to false transitions. In much the same way, the ominous, heavy tread that introduces "In the Old Castle" merged seamlessly with the floating right-hand figures that enshroud the piece in a genuine air of mystery.

If "Sorrowful Reverie" seemed more overwrought than genuine-

If "Sorrowful Reverie" seemed more overwrought than genuinely felt, Andsnes answered with an engaging "Goblin Dance" (more flying hands) and, for an appropriately big close to the first half, "A Dance (Furiant)." There was perhaps more pianistic bluster than potent music-making here, but at least the spectacle revealed. but at least the spectacle revealed the pianist's ability to achieve vol-

une effortlessly.

In contrast with his obvious relish of the unusual repertoire on his program, an air of obligation hung over the Beethoven sonatas that framed the recital. While it that framed the recital. While it was clear that Andsnes knows his way around these scores — the playing was consistently competent, if less commanding than elsewhere — his point of view on the classical material was harder to discern. It felt as if the pianist had abandoned his own artistic personality in the presence of the personality in the presence of the master, to everyone's loss. While he found the requisite lightness of touch for the beguiling B-flat Major Sonata, a lack of confidence



Leif Ove Andsnes

in his own interpretation emerged in some faulty coordination be-tween the hands. Nevertheless, dynamic gradations were master-ful, and the pianist reveled in the sparkling Rondo.

The G-Minor Fantasy, which

The G-Minor Fantasy, which has confounded many more sea-soned pianists, sounded less than free and improvisatory, which it must if it is to be fully realized. The startling ascending and descending scales that both bind and interrupt the piece were a

struggle, and one detected a nagging sense of effects without cause throughout. Though valiant, Andsnes' Les Adieux was tentative and tense, the music often collapsing under the weight of naked, single-note phrasing.

The concert closed with Andsnes' finest playing of the evening: two encores from Karol Szymanowski's Op. 50. The pianist captured the elusive rhythms and colors of both mazurkas to the struggle, and one detected a nag-

colors of both mazurkas to the quick. ▼

Schubert

previous page

and Gerhard Schulz, violist Thomas Kakuska, and cellist Valentin Erben. The quartets on the first half, the G-minor, D. 173, and the E-flat Major, D. 87, are pieces the teenage Schubert composed for the family string composed for the family string quartet (like his brothers, the composer was a talented violincomposer was a talented violinist and, according to contemporary accounts, a committed violist). The second half was given over to the great D-minor Quartet No. 14, D. 810, "Death and the Maiden," from the composer's maturity (in his late 20s; he died at age 31).

died at age 31).

The programming was astute. Schubert's early quartets are underexposed and can only profit by expert outings in this anniversary year. And "Death and the Maiden" belongs in the active repertoire of any world-class quartet. But Friday, the Alban Berg sounded more like gifted amateurs than real musicians. It wasn't until the second cians. It wasn't until the second half that the players reached anything approaching greatness. In fact, not until the concluding Allegro of the G-minor quartet did the puricipate are received to the concluding that the provide the received the receive did the musicians arrive at a re-liable level of ensemble. The playing was audibly out of synch in the opening movements, and there was little evidence that the quartet was enjoying this made-for-pleasure music. Like its E-flat minor counter-

part, the G-minor is spiked with frequent violin solos — one of them, in the first movement, quite extended. First violinist Pichler, who dominated as much as led the ensemble all evening, dispatched it with ragged line and more sour pitches than could be excused from a musi-

cian of his stature. The quartet responded with a welter of tentative entrances, uneven echo responses, and curdled chords. It wasn't until the tighter, if more relaxed, ensemble of the jolly final Allegro that one sensed a good time was had by all.

The even more playful E-flat Major work, minxish yet startlingly concise by this composer's standards, won a cleaner, brighter performance. The spitfire Scherzo (marked Prestissimo) found the musicians playing off one another productive ing off one another productive-ly, and the ensuing Adagio was rich and weighty without be-coming ponderous. The con-cluding Allegro boasts another long violin solo, a fetching tune suggestive of upscale salon music. Pichler lit into these bars with the right spirit, but he with the right spirit, but he couldn't sustain the energy, and his tone quickly degenerated

into a coarse sequence of sag-ging pitches.

For most of its long course,

Death and the Maiden sounded
like the work of another quartet. Clearly finding this more de-manding music bracing, the players engaged it head on and for the first time all evening sounded like a world-class string quartet. The opening Allegro was played with particular ener-gy and security. Unfortunately, the movement's climax fell to tatters. The critical inner movements of the piece were more settled and probing, and the An-dante con moto wielded a vari-ety of expression appropriate for this captivating stretch of sound, in which all of Schubert seems the concluding Presto, however, when the musicians opted for an ultimately self-defeating tempo that turned this brilliant finale into a helter-skelter mess.



Bonjour tristesse

by Steven Jenkins

The Lonely Life by Jack Pierson; Edition Stemmle, \$39.95

n Jack Pierson's blurry-eved. desperately glamorous view of the world, the road between Hell and Paradise is strewn with flowers and tinsel, cigarette butts, and porn palaces. Pierson stum-bles punch-drunk and enraptured from damnation to salvation and back again in The Lonely Life, his new book of photographs, drawings, and installations about the cheap thrills and solitude of star dom. These images of burly mod-els, sun-drenched landscapes, show-biz squalor, and Pierson's own minimalist gallery exhibi-tions suggest a tantalizing narra-tive of human isolation and the desire for meaningful connection desire for meaningful connection amidst the detritus of junk culture. Sequenced with the free-association illogic of a sleepless night, Pierson's pictures and words — some of them in the form of marquee letters and commercial signs such as "maybe," "lost," and "cry" — alternate uneasily between lowlife slumming and high-class mythmaking, perpetrated by a self-conscious artiste who just wants to be alone.

who just wants to be alone.
Pierson emerged in the late-1980s from the so-called Boston School, a tight-knit gaggle of punk slackers who almost accidentally became accomplished artists by transforming their di-sheveled lives into a daring aesthetic. Unlike his peers and pals Nan Goldin and David Arm-strong, however, Pierson likes to embellish the facts of his daily re-ality and the modest truths of his photogenic friends with a fictional gloss copped in equal measure from Midnight Cowboy and Rebel Without a Cause. Pierson has carefully honed this style during the past decade, culling tainted beauty from the faces of sad

That's not to say Pierson's book is without charm. Behind the tough-guy exterior that informs much of his work lurks a genuine softy with a rather touching weakness for Romantic sentiment Vers (200 Pierson changed). ing weakness for Romantic senti-ment. Years ago, Piersson changed his name from Jonathan to Jack in order to shuck off what he has called "my mother's faux New England aristocracy," yet his im-ages frequently recall a recogniz-

It's easy to kid Pierson for his stylized loneliness, yet on some level I'm entranced by his bluetinted widescreen shots of the open road, his abandoned cup and saucer, his grainy portrait of a sleeping beauty reassembled into a grid of fragmented body parts.

young men suckered by the tawdry promise of California dreaming. While superficially pre-tending to be a documentarian, Pierson is too in love with artifice merely to record people and places as they are. His deliberately gritty images and informal technique are actually the result of calculated posturing, thus *The Lonely Life* is more an aestheticized fortexy of down and out. cized fantasy of down-and-out ennui than it is an authentic journal of innocence lost and found.

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every 3rd Thurs, 8-10pm upstairs, 933 Harrison able New England sensibility that harks back to Thoreau's celebra-tion of resplendent solitude. One such image is a portrait of a bare-chested man with a "love" tattoo on his shoulder, contentedly sunbathing in a garden. Conversely, Pierson's background in beefcake the way he uses dappled light to eroticize the sunbather's nipple.

eroticize the sunbather's nipple. Pierson's fondness for the bleached-out lighting and seedy atmosphere of '70s porn informs much of *The Lonely Life*. Snapshots of urinals, motel rooms, and wads of cash reek of morningafter regret, and victimization is suggested in a portrait of a young man in a tank top whose eyes, face, and torso have been obliterated by scratches in the negative. Still, Pierson can't resist glamoriz-Still, Pierson can't resist glamoriz-ing grind houses; he rhapsodizes Times Square in an over-exposed shot of sailors walking past the Adonis Theatre with its "For

photography — he once shot boy-toy layouts for mags like *Honcho* and *Mandate* — is also evident in



Study of a young man from Jack Pierson's The Lonely Life

Adults Only" and "XXXTASY" Adults Only and AAATAST signs. He also photographs mar-quee lights as if they were strands of pearls, elevating burlesque decor to the level of Hollywood glamour. Pierson's penchant for salacious entertainment appears fresh-scrubbed in his photocol-lage of pop stars — Fabian, Troy Donahue, a young Elvis — and in

a gorgeously garish image of a stage curtain rising to reveal high-heeled showgirls and tuxedo-clad

hoofers strutting their stuff.
All of these images appear in
The Lonely Life as lusciously
printed full-page spreads, bookended by three short essays that shamelessly contribute to the

next page



"Helpless and Hopeless," from The Lonely Life.





Out There

⋖ page **39**

shocking. But why? Could it be Ul-rich's dissenting judgments of **Michael Smuin**'s latest work, Cyrano, which closed last week? "The most depressing aspect of Cyrano," Ulrich wrote in the Ex-aminer, "is the extent to which Smuin has succumbach to self are Smuin has succumbed to self-par-ody." And then, "Cyrano de Berg-erac remains only slightly less inrace remains only slightly less intractable to choreography than Principia Mathematica or The Critique of Pure Reason." Though there were other priceless bon mots, Pithy's favorite was, "Smuin vandalizes no fewer than ten Mozart works. A famously musical choreographer like Mark Morris would probably hemorrhage just thinking about it."

If you want to see real choreography, we suggest you check out the final programs of the San Francisco Ballet, which performs through Sunday at the Center for the Arts, or the critically acclaimed Swan Lake at the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles.

Jack Davis wannabes

Sometimes you really do need a bit of substance with your spectacle, especially if you're performing in front of a cynical, "seen-it-all" San Francisco crowd, like the one that turned out recently for one that turned out recently for the Trocadero's Bondage-a-Go-Go club. The Impotent Sea Snakes, a trashy transvestite hard rock troupe from Atlanta, found this out pretty quickly, as they foolishly attempted to rile the jaded masses with a never-ending



Gratuitous bible-burning at the Impotent Sea Snakes show at the Troc.

display of tired shock-rock clichés. You name it, they did it: fire-eating, blood-letting rituals, Bible-burning, flag-burning, crucifixion, fireworks, simulated lesbian sex, stripteases, S/M bondage play, pretty boys and pretty girls in fetish clothing whipping each other, more fire, more simulated sex, you get the idea.

The only ones who seemed to enjoy it were the hridge-andtunnel meatheads who probably confused this pseudo-event as an-

confused this pseudo-event as an-other chapter in Jack Davis' on-

going public autoerotobiography. All things considered, the confab would have been at least amusing had the music not been so atroiously boring. But songs like "I Wanna Fuck Your Dad" and "Cir-cle Jerk" simply sound better on paper, and their pathetic cover of Kiss' "Rock-and-Roll All Night" was just too obvious

Drag gueen detective

Otter Outrage was drooling over the dirty magazines — oops, we mean perusing the new fiction — in A Different Light the other day when, much to his surprise and elation, he spied the debut

novel by her kissin' cousin, **Orland Outland**, Pithy's illustrious predecessor at Out There. *Death Wore a Smart Little Outfit* (Berkley Prime Crime), a mystery which was many years in the making, charts the adventures of a house courtures addited. haute couture-addicted drag queen detective, one Doan Mcqueen detective, one but an Candler, and his equally fashionable sidekick, Binky. Otter tore himself away from the latest issue of Foreskin Quarterly to skim his kin's work and found it filled with Oo's usual vim and verve, plus a wardrobe to die for. Although we didn't consult mystery maven Deborah Peifer, McCandler may be the first private dick with something besides a .45 tucked in his pantyhose. Otter sez it's a steal at only \$5.50! Check it out!

Politically incorrect

Wasn't that comedian **Mark Davis** we saw last week on *All Fired Up*, the mildly amusing new



Mark Davis in a wig.

NBC comedy? There she was flipping her wrists and camping it up for the cameras. What a spectacle. Guess faggot with a gun is now just faggot with a wig.

Jack Pierson

previous page

artist's self-generated hagiograartist's seit-generated nagiogra-phy, Interspersed among the pho-tographs, installation shots, and some clumsy drawings of hands are words and phrases arranged in different sizes and styles like ran-som notes. These odd declara-tions — "gone"; "feelings"; "you are allowed 2 touch things"; "any-where"; "helpless"; "hopeless" where"; "helpless"; "hopeless" — function as mantras for Pierson's meditations on isolation. He also includes reproductions of two texts — Françoise Sagan's classic 1950's novel *Bonjour Tristesse* and Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Richard the Third* — suggesting that the ongoing winter of Pierson's artful discontent might be even more appealing if he could linger moodily around France in a red James Dean windbreaker.

It's easy to kid Pierson for his actions to the property of the

stylized loneliness, yet on some level I'm entranced by his bluelevel I'm entranced by his blue-tinted widescreen shots of the open road, his abandoned cup and saucer, his grainy portrait of a sleeping beauty reassembled into a grid of fragmented body parts. "Loneliness and being alone don't always mean the same," Aztec Camera's Roddy Frame wrote in the beautiful ballad "Stray," and Pierson visualizes this crucial distinction in *The Lonely Life* to remind us that sometimes Life to remind us that sometimes two's a crowd. ▼

EVENT

High rollers



un-loving scenesters won't want to miss Friday night's fabulous and festive "In the Green" Casino Night, a benefit for Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Group. A lively crowd, jazz, gaming, food, drink, and Lord knows what else, promise to make this the best time you've had since that trip to Vegas.

Entertainment for the event will be provided by the glamorous Miss Dawn Cano, pictured above with her cute little pooch, Mr. Bean; and the Thaddeus Pinkston Jazz Sextet, which will perform an exotic sampling of "Casino Jazz" from Monte Carlo of the '30s and Vegas of the '90s.

It all happens Friday in the Green Room in the War Memorial Veterans Building at 401 Van Ness Avenue. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the door. Gaming begins at 6:30 p.m. Cabaret performance starts at 8 p.m. For information and tickets, call 863–1581. ▼

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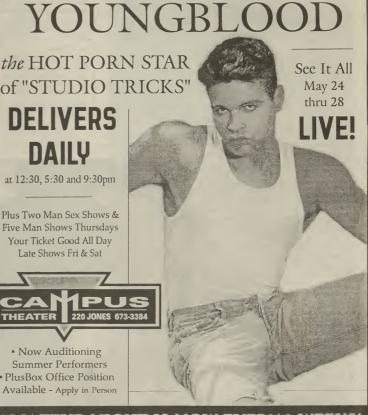
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José Luis Moscovich

Classical

n Sunday, May 25, the San Francisco Camerata Americana will open its concert season at the Green Room with the world premiere of Carlos Franzetti's Concerto del Plata, featuring Argentine guitarist Sergio Puccini. The Camerata is the only professional orchestra in the country devoted exclusively to performing music by Latin American composers, and its first program in-cludes music by Mexican, Argentine

cludes music by Mexican, Argentine and Cuban composers.
José Luis Moscovich is Music Director and Conductor of the San Francisco Camerata. In his own words:
"It was always hard (at times even dangerous) to come out as a Jew in Argentina. And it was impossible, but gentina. And it was impossible, but very necessary, to come out as a gay man. In the Bay Area it's been very easy to come out as a gay man, not as easy to come out as a Jew (but easy enough), but hard to come out as a Hispanic, which is what Latin American Jews really are, when one realizes that being a Hispanic is about the culture one is brought up in, not one's ture one is brought up in, not one's

"I founded the Camerata because I "I founded the Camerata because I never get to hear or play, let alone conduct, any of the great orchestral music that Latin American composers have produced over the last hundred years. It's not very different with Latin American visual arts, or other cultural expressions either....So I figured I'd do a whole season of Latin American music, and maybe include a European encore now and then (the reverse of what the Symphony does here)." ▼

The San Francisco Camerata performs Sunday, May 25 at 4 p.m. at the Green Room, War Memorial Building, 401 Van Ness Avenue. Tickets are \$20 (\$12 students, seniors, and disabled). Call 587-2319.



Abandoned Morphology

Lyn McCracken combines visual art and spoken word in video-enhanced staging of work-in-progress. \$5-10. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Below the Belt

Cruel and unusual performance by Lynn Breedlove, Shoshanah Oppenheim, more. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 5/24. \$8-12. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St. #216C. 863-2989.

Cabaret Castro

Justin Chin in new one-man show, Born. \$6. 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 552-6031

Collusion

Stephanie Maher and Kath-leen Hermesdorf in a 'new dance' dance company. Fri.-Sun. at 8:30pm. \$12. Brady Street Studios, 60 Brady. 558-9355.

Durang, Durang Actors Theatre of SF presents six vignettes by playwright Christopher Durang. Thurs. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 6/14. \$16-18. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

En Drag

Female impersonators revue hosted by Chablis, Platinum Foxx. \$5. 9,10&11:30pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Gay Comedy Night Gay comics on new night. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Horror Tape Script Staged readings of LA artist Raymond Pettibon's play. Fri. & Sun. at 8pm. \$7. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom. 626-5416.

In Xanadu

ShadowLight Productions' epic shadow theater work. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$18. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

James Lane Traylor

Photography of male erotica, opens tonight, 6pm. Thru 7/7. The Edge, 18th & Collingwood. 905-5879.

More Than a Mouthful Queer culture TV interviews johns stars David Arquette, Lukas Haas. 10pm. Cable Channel 53.

Pandemonium

Antenna Theatre's celebration of spring, a walk-through out-door performance. Thurs.-Sun. at 8:30pm thru 6/22. \$12-15. Headlands Center for the Arts, 944 Fort Barry, Marin. 332-4862.

Parsons Dance

Company
SF debut of acclaimed NY troupe. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sat. &Sun. at 2pm thru 5/25. \$15-33. Marines Mem'l Theatre, 609 Sutter. 771-6900.

Smackers

SOON 3 experimental theater company: couples kissing in captivity, in outdoor perfor-mances, free. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 6/7. Washington Square Park. 558-8575.

Solo Cola

Comic monologues by Wayne Doba, Don't Be Like Your Fa-ther, and Sarah Ellis, The Champ and Waitress on PMS. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm

thru 5/31, \$10, Bindlestiff Studios, 185 6th St. 974-1167.

Went to Lunch,

Mark's solo love story for the vocationally impaired. Thurs. Sat. at 8pm thru 5/31. \$7-10. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626 3169. 626-2169.

The Big Drag

1940s stage noir comedy by Chris Leader and Sean Owens. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 6/7. \$12-21. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Broun Fellinis

Jazz band in benefit concert for Pets Are Wonderful Sup-port. \$5. 10pm. Elbo Room, 647 Valencia. 241-1460.

Lypsinka's Greatest Hits

"(The Second Farewell),"
musical theater diva's new extravaganza. Tues.-Sun. thru
6/1, call for times. Tonight at
8&10pm, \$18-20. Josie's
Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

My Uncle Sam

Rough and Tumble in Len Jenkin's play. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 6/15. \$16-20. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. 673-1172.

Pansy Division

Queer rockers, with Auntie Christ (featuring Exene and D.J. from X), Me First. Call for time, price. Bottom of the Hill. 626-4455.

Syn

Garden Tour

Tour of the California Native Garden, free. Meet at Friend Gate (opposite Japanese Tea Garden), Botanical Gardens, 2pm. 661-1316 x312.

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Kollective meets, 3pm. Call for info & location. 731-2424.

Michael C. Botkin

Show commemorates life and work of journalist & provoca-teur. Sat. & Sun., 2-5pm thru 5/25. Gay and Lesbian His-torical Society, 973 Market, 4th fl. 777-5455.

San Francisco Camerata

Orchestral music by Latin American composers, con-ducted by José Luis Moscovich. \$20. 4pm. Green Room, War Mem'l Bidg., 401 Van Ness. 587-2319.

Mon

Andy Cox

SFSU art student's alternative ideology in corporate advertising. Thru 5/31. Art Department Gallery, SFSU. 1600 Holloway. 338-2176.

Art on the Front Lines

"Of Healing," artwork by people with life-threatening illness or disability. Mon.-Fri. thru 6/30. 4th fl., City Hall, 401 Van Ness. 255-3474.

A Decade of Forced Entertainment

Modus Ensemble presents self-portrait retrospective of British perf. group. \$4-7. 7:30pm. SOMAR Theatre, 934 Brannan. 346-6456.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

MC Karen Ripley, aspiring funny performers sign up by

phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Wet Wit

"Getting Carried Away with the Flood," photo exhibit of recent natural disaster by Ron Lazar. Thru 5/27. Coffee Bazaar, 14045 Armstrong Woods, Guerneville. (707) 869-9706.

lues

Endgame

Samuel Beckett's play; and The Chairs by Eugene lonesco. Tues. at 7pm thru 6/3. \$8. EXIT (Theatre and Stage Left), 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

Espeios de humo

(Smoky mirrors), works on paper by Joel Rendon, Artemio Rodriguez, Jose Galindo, thru 6/15. Polanco Gallery, 393 Hayes. 252-5753.

New musical comedy set in the swinging sixties. Tues.-Sun. thru 6/8, call for times. \$28-34. Tonight at 8pm. Alcazar Theatre, 650 Geary. 441-4042.

Heavenly Bodies

Photographs by Richard Mis-rach, with William Wegman's Lost & Found, thru 6/28. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661.

Indochine

French Film Club screens Catherine Deneuve movie. \$5. 7pm. Alliance Française de SF, 1345 Bush. 775-7755.

Men and Boys

Figurative ceramic sculpture by Doug Jeck, thru May. Dorothy Weiss Gallery, 256 Sutter. 397-3611.

Michael McDowell Recent paintings, thru 6/18. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. 863-2891.

Similar Differences All-media exhibit addresses gender in art-making, thru 5/31. SOMAR Gallery, 934

Brannan, 552-2131 Xena Night

Warrior princess on two screens, free. 8pm. Chat House, 139 8th St. 255-8783.

Wed

Sp

S

Club of No Regrets

Modus Ensemble presents Forced Entertainment, innov-ative British performers, in US debut. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 5/31. \$12-18. SOMAR Theater, 934 Brannan. 346-6456.

FLIQ: Generations

Queer videos, interactive dis-cussion between queer men of different generations, a Stop AIDS Project event, free. 7pm. ATA, 992 Valencia. 824-3890. **Great Brits**

Exhibit of creative British in-fluences on SF performing arts. Thru 6/14. SF Perform-ing Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

Jay DeFeo:

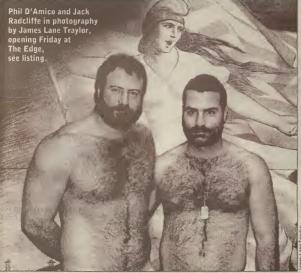
"The Florence View and Re-lated Work" exhibit, thru 6/1. Museo ItaloAmericano, Bldg. C, Fort Mason. 673-2556.

Liza Minnelli

Legendary singer/actress in concert with 12-piece band. Wed.-Fri. at 8pm. \$45-75. Davies Symphony Hall, Grove and Van Ness. 864-6000.







Avant Shamanic Trance Jazz with masks & costumes. \$6-10. 9pm. Venue 9, 252 9th St. 626-2169.

Q-Spirit Women

Spirituality group for lesbians presents lecture by Jan Carl-son, MFCC, "How to Achieve a Conscious Relationship." \$10. 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eu-reka. 281-9377.

Singer's Boy

Olympia Dukakis in ACT's production of Leslie Ayvazian's comic fable. Tues.-Sun. thru 6/1, call for times. \$19-47.50. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

Survival System Train Sculpture by Kenji Yanobe on

exhibit: also, Pepón Osorio's exhibit; also, Pepon Usorio's Badge of Honor and Organically Grown works, Tues.-Sun. thru 6/1. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Visions of Modernity:

"Photographs from the Peruvian Andes 1900-1930" exhibition opens. Thru 8/24. \$3: Mexican Museum, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-0404.

Bi Ma Dance Co.

From London, and the Bay Area's Lily Cai Chinese Dance in performance. Thurs.-Sun. in performance. Thurs.-Si at 8pm thru 6/1. \$12.5018.50. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida, 621-7797

Dalliance

D-L Alvarez,

Freak Show

Shotgun Players present Tom Stoppard's adaptation of Arthur Schnitzler's play Liebelei. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, thru 5/31. \$8-10. La Val's Subterranean Theater, 1834 Euclid, Berkeley. (510) 716-9082.

Ruby Neri New exhibitions by former Bay Area artists, thru 7/5. New Langton Arts, 1246 Fol-som. 626-5416.

Sideshow dance party with Phatima, Cougar Cash, Sister Zsa-Zsa Glamour, more. \$4

Thurs.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$30-40. Ro-coco Showplace, 165 10th St. 392-4400. WANNA SUBMIT?

Hurrell's Hollywood Portraits

Exhibition of prints from golden age of the Silver Screen, opens tonight, 5:30pm. Wed.-Sat. thru 7/12. Photo Metro Gallery, 17 Tehama. 243-9917.

Lesbians Raising Sons Lesbian mother author Jess Wells reads from new book, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891. Night of the Hunter

"In Pursuit of the Hirsute," photos & sculpture by Chris Komater. Thurs.-Sat., 12-6pm thru 5/31. 509 Cultural Center, 509 Ellis. 255-5971.

Out, Loud & Proud

Celebration of Pride through Art, a juried exhibition, fea-tures 24 GLBT artists. Tues.&Thurs. thru 7/8. Bridge Gallery, 689 Bryant. 267-1866.

Praise and

Punishment Show

Shear Madness

Sonoma Artists

Fratelli Bologna in evening of competitive improv. Thurs. at 8pm thru 5/29. \$10. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. 285-4328.

Whodunit set in unisex hair-styling salon. Tues.-Sun., call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$28-32. Mason Street The-atre, 430 Mason. 982-5463.

Painter Elena Scott, wood sculptor Ben Britton exhibit. Thurs.-Sat. thru 6/6. Collision Artspace, 419 14th St. 431-4074.

Strip! Bare-ly Legal

Interactive theatre experience set at a male strip club.

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman Out & About

Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

This Week's Dinner Specials

Grilled 12-oz NY Pepper Steak vith cracked black pepper & brandy-cream, onion rings and

Fresh Atlantic Salmon poached in white wine with lemon-tarragon served with chef's rice or mashed potatoes .10.95

Surf & Turf -- grilled N.Y. Steak with skewered cajun prawns, with vegetable and baked potato or french fries.......13.95

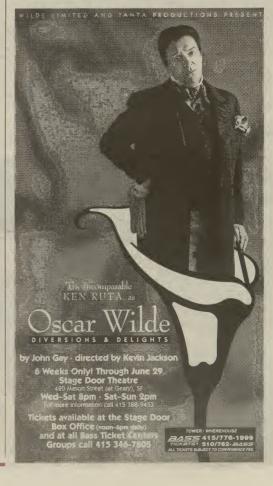
PRIME RIB au jus with baked potato d creamy horseradish......11.95 and creamy horseradish....

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Chicago, here we come!

by Mister Marcus

ven as you read this, thousands of leather men and women are already in Chicago to attend the 19th edition of the Interest. Chicago to attend the 19th edition of the International Mr. Leather contest. The host hotel Congress has been sold out for months, and the 60 percent increase in attendance this year has caused hundreds of delegates to spill over into a whopping five other hotels!

Besides the leather tribe, over a thousand bears will be attending

the big weekend by the Great Lakes Bears, who have taken over the Intercontinental, less than a mile from the leather group. And little-known to most attendees, the right-wing Christian group, The Promise Keepers, will be in the same vicinity about 2,000 strong. It should be an interesting

mix!
At my deadline, some 50 contestants will be vying for the 1997 IML title. At approximately 15 minutes each, the prejudging session will take some 13 hours to complete. The judges are in place, and leather men from coast to coast, including contestants. including contestants from at least three foreign countries, are ready. Each will be introduced at the outset, but only 20 will become semi-finalists and go on to Bazaar the physique and speech segments.
While the main focus of the

weekend is the competition and naming of IML '97, the best non-stop show is in the lobby of the host hotel. The hallway from the registration desk to the elevators

registration desk to the elevators is long and wide and is lined on both sides with hunks cruising the crowd. Some people go to Chicago and don't even attend the scheduled events!

IML Joe Gallagher will host the Hometown Party on Saturday night, and it's going to be a rousing "New York, New York" extravaganza. Everyone's trying hard to get an invite to Toronto's big aganza. Everyones it ying natu to get an invite to Toronto's big "Maple Leaf" party. A bunch of San Francisco leather people are also planning a big do, and every-one wants to attend.

And I repeat to the many of you who keep asking me, "Why is it always in Chicago?" "Because they thought of it first!"



Bob Conway of Los Angeles is one going for the IML title



Robert Tomas is Mr. Toronto Leather and one of the foreign contenders for the IML '97 title in

. I'll have the photos of the winners and all the dish for you next week. In the meantime, if you just have to know who won, be at the SF-Eagle around 2100

next Sunday night, May 25.

The results will be phoned in to the bar.

Check with manager Joe

Tasty treats

Here on the home front, the AIDS Emergency Fund

staged its annual din-ner last Monday, May 12, at the downtown Marriott with awards



This oil painting of outgoing IML Joe Gallagher by San Francisco's "Leon" will be presented to Joe during the IML '97 contest.

and recognition accorded to the many volunteers who make it the successful organization that it is. successful organization that it is. Cuisine donated by chefs from some of the city's best eateries was served with the appropriate wines, and a vast array of silent auction items were displayed for silent bidding. It was a lively pastiche of formally dressed people mingling with leather and dragand all for a good cause. A lovely way to spend a Monday night!

On Thursday, May 15, some seven stalwarts graced the boards at the SF-Eagle as Andy Anderson stepped in to emcee the Bare Chest Contest. B.A.R. editor Mike Salinas, celebrating his 40th,

Salinas, celebrating his 40th, headed the judging panel, which also included his pop Rick Salinas and Golden Gate Guards MC President Andy Rose. The contestants were put through their paces, but the Bare Chest Chorus must have been on strike that night. When all was said and

done, Cory Iwatsu was chosen Mr. October '98, and the runner-up was Ingu Yun. Mr. November 1998 will be chosen next Thurs-day, May 29. Hope to see you all

On Saturday night, May 17, at the SF-Eagle, the Phoenix Uni-form Club hosted a class-act party in honor of their 20th anniver-sary. A big crowd was on hand to help this community-minded group celebrate with a sumptuous buffet and free cocktails. There was even a snazzy string quartet playing throughout, and the stage was decorated with dozens of or-



Mr. San Diego Leather Mark fornians in the IML competition

ange roses. All the club members were introduced, and everyone

seemed to be having a good time.

It was a sterling Saturday night.

Later, Mr. SF Leather Tom

Powers hosted a kickoff beer bust
at the Eagle for his departure for at the Eagle for his departure for Chicago to compete at IML. Meanwhile, across town at Daddy's, former 49er Roger Craig made a campaign stop with team owner Eddie DeBartolo, pushing for votes on the new stadium. Yeah, it was a hot time in The City last weekend, and I'm not just talking about the weather!



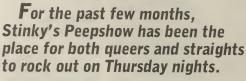
IML '96 Joe Gallagher steps aside vites everyone to the New York Hometown Party the night before.

Stinky's Peepshow is SF's own Squeezebox

by Adrian Roberts

grimage to New York City, I was introduced by some friends to a nightclub unlike no other. For a deviant queer rock 'n' roller like myself, it was like a dream come true. You see, unlike most card-carrying queens, I absolutely despise the sort of "Hi-NRG" house music that gets played in most gay nightclubs. But here was a place that didn't cater to that stereotype. Instead, trashy '70s and '80s rock and punk tunes blasted from the speakers, while a diverse mix of fags, dykes, drag queens, and straight hipsters tore up the place. Later, a towering drag queen took the stage with her band, but instead of belting But now, thankfully, all that has changed. For the past few months, Stinky's Peepshow has been *the* place for both queers and straights alike to rock out on Thursday nights. Started by Paul King, the club features a few inspired twists, such as the "large and lovely" fe-male go-go dancers and the back room "peep show," which fea-tures a different drag queen/per-

Then of course, there are the bands, which usually tend to be of the "over-the-top" variety. Remember when there used to be rock groups that were unafraid to get dressed up and put on a show? These are the sort of acts that get booked at Stinky's Peepshow. Recent weeks have showcased such bands as Glue,



out tired Judy Garland covers, they cranked out blistering rock 'n' roll. The group, I later found

'n' roll. The group, I later found out, was Miss Guy & the Toilet Boys. And the club was, of course, the now-fabled Squeezebox.

Upon returning to San Francisco, I wondered why we had nothing similar. With a community that prides itself on diversity, it seemed surprising that this. ty, it seemed surprising that this town lacked a regular nightspot for its thriving queer rock scene. Queers into rock music—and there are more of us than you might think—had to be content with occasional shows at Downtown Donna's Faster Pussycat, or listening to Don Baird spin tunes at the Hole In The Wall.

Tribe 8, Bite, and Manic Hispanic.
And tonight, it's only fitting that on stage will be none other than Squeezebox DJ herself, Miss Guy, with her band, the Toilet Boys. In Julian Fliesher's book, The Drag Queens of New York, Miss Guy states, "When you're onstage, people are paying to see your, you people are paying to see you; you have to give them as much for their money visually as you do musically. I've always been into that." And with her stylish mix of rock and drag, she does just that.

Stinky's Peepshow happens every Thursday night at the CW Saloon, 911 Folsom at 5th. For more info, call 974-1585.







Picasso

◆ page 42

a quiet permanent collection, stands out as a dynamic — and, according to the catalogue, much reworked — composition reworked — composition among its more traditional companions from 1901. The Metropolitan Museum of Art's famous Portrait of Gertrude Stein, painted after dozens of sittings with

the formidable Oakland artist, affirms its status as a true icon of modern art

modern art.

The exhibition ends rather abruptly after the Stein portrait, which was painted in 1906, one year before the history of art was turned upside down by Picasos's shocking Les Desmoiselles d'Avignon. The reason for this chronological division is not adequately presented to viewers. presented to viewers.

Far more successful than the

exhibition is the catalogue, whose essays by Robert Rosenblum and other Picasso scholars delve more deeply into Picasso than does the wall text. ▼

Picasso: The Early Years is up through July 27 at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC; it moves to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston in September.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Weekend, May 22-26

It's Memorial Day Weekend. Leather mavens and bears converge on Chicago for one of the biggest blowouts in our community. Castro Lions and Denver Lions go to Canada to help initiate the first gay Canadian Lions Club in Toronto! The Pegasus MOC

Saturday, May 24

The San Franciscans MC celebrates its 27th anniversary on the patio at the SF-Eagle, 2000-2300. Admission by club overlay or invitation.

The 15 Association's monthly play party. Call 673-0452 for time, cost and location. BYOB. Guests must arrive with you!

Sunday, May 25

SF-Eagle and Daddy's are co-sponsoring the Leather Pride Float beer bust at the Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8 – with raffles for a "ride on the float." Submit a float design and win \$100 and ei-ther an Eagle or Daddy's vest!

Put on your black stuff and attend the Black Party at 520 4th 5t. at 2130. Tix \$12 at door only. Manny Lehman from the House of Blues in LA spins. Freak freely!

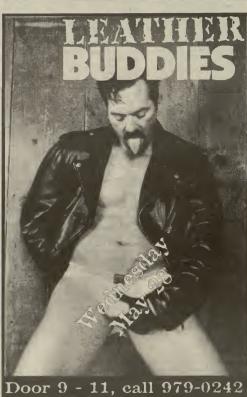
Monday, May 26
Memorial Day! Choosing Mr. Lone Star – always an outrageous event – with a beer bust, 1500-2000, and contest, 1700-1900. Danny Williams emcees with door prizes, raffles and Red

Wednesday, May 28

Golden Gate Guards MC beer bust and tattoo con-test at Daddy's, 2000-2300. Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison tonight. You know the rules, Boots! Leather! No parfum. You will be sniffed!

Thursday, May 29

Choosing Mr. November 1998 on the BCC at the Eagle, 2200. Win \$100 the easy way and support the AIDS Emergency Fund!





900.844.2227

Only 98¢ per minute to respond to ads!

PARTING **GLANCES**

Missed Stop On Muni You were headed outbound to Church, turned around to go do town. Dark hair, beautiful eyes, dressed in muted colors. Follow me onto train. let's meet and talk.

2 6103.

CA Pacific Med Center 4/25 5PM You: feeding parking meter, wear-ing, khaki shorts, white shirt, sexy mustache and terrific smile. me: black jeans, white T-shirt and splint on hand, late for physical therapy. Want to talk? 22 6104.

Sunday 4/27 On Corbett Ave Me: older but "young at heart" lesbian walking up Corbett. You: on the other side, cute with friendly smile when I crossed the street we continue to "yglance" at each other. Hi!! 22 6105.

Wed. 4/23, 8AM. Castro Bus Stop Saw you at bus stop at Walgreens, 18th/Castro. You: big guy, goatee. Me: 6ft, and goatee, later waved from my car. Wanted to stop but had to go. ᡚ 6106.

Art @ Folsom Gulch Friday 5/2 You were so fab, should have given you numbers—Would like to see you again. M. @ 6201.

That Swanson Look
April 9th, 2:00 PM. Corner of 17th
and Castro. You were wearing thick
dark glasses, still I could notice your
pretty eyes and smile₋I gave you
that Valentino/Banderas look.
Please call.

20 6202.

One Not-So-Genuine Testicle?
And one genuine testicle? (Which is plenty for me). Your name was John, I fondled them both, your cock too. Can I do the same w/my mouth? 22 6203.

Robert From Lebanon Have not seen you at the gym in months. Last time we talked about your painting, I said your accent was charming. Would like to meet for coffee or dinner. 12 6204.

Sun May 4 6PM China Court And...You: blue shirt w/friend, we smiled at each other big time. me: hot man w/black jacket. You waved crossing Castro going into Harvey's. You're beautiful! I'm single! Call me. 22 6301. Ships Passing in the Night Wed. 4/30, 4:15 pm, at Church & Market MUNI station. Last sighted platform of Civic Center Station. Markings include goatee & backpack, claimed to be travelling to visit friend & in need of a nap. Passing ship was carrying rolled up blueprints. Generous reward offered. 12 6205.

Closet Ball

Closet Ball
You had brown hair, trim beard,
glasses (off & on), me: brown hair,
short, mustache. You came by me
on stage later after the show. Too
shy to say hi. 2nd chance? № 6206

5/7 Moving Day On 18th St.
You: on a bike, cute, nice smile; brought me some bags to help me move. Me: short, blondish, goatee Would love to get acquainted. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6302.

Joe Blow Buddies 5/2 You: blond, green eyed, Italian, we played for hours! You're one hot man! Can't get your rugged good looks and powerfully built body out of my mind. Please call, Anthony. 22 6303.

Spike's Sunday 5/11 3:30 PM
You: Black leather jacket, dark
hair, handsome. You were talking
with two friends outside. You were
driving a red Suzuki 750 Motorcycle. 22 6304.

Mother's Day
Hyatt Union Sq. Suburban Sal
spoke to you but was too embarrassed to talk more. You: long hair,
gray polo, shorts. me: black
polo/jeans. Pls call me. \$2 6305.

Tommy At The Pleasuredome I gave you a ride to Travel Lodge. My name's Dave. We kissed in my car and I was dying to hear from you, but you never called! Please call. 22 6307.

Second Chance!
Monday May 12th, 19th street between Collingwood and Castro,
2PM. Me: red/brown hair with Filipino friend. You: Aslan? across street. Exchanged eye contact.
Want to meet. \$\to\$ 6308.

Upper Polk Asian
Gray bike shorts, gold T-shirt, shoulder and brown grocery bags. Crossing Polk at Lombard Sunday May 4th at 6PM. Strawberry blond hunk would like to meet you. № 6309.

North Point Movie Glances Eyes met seeing "Liar Liar" at the-ater. Interested in meeting. Call me and see what happens. 22 6312.

Jay K. Where Are You?
I miss you a lot! Need another taste of big, beautiful dick soon. Please forgive, feed me again & again! XOXOXO Chris. 22 6311.

Hello Blue Audi From BMW635CS We passed each other on Market/Di-amond Ht blvd. on 5/9 at 5:45 PM. I smiled, you smiled. Your head-lights were on and then you were gone. Call me please. 6310.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Big Black Male Looking For A Special Friend to enjoy walks by bay and spending romantic time gether. I enjoy working out. I'm 275#, 5'11", 23, call me. 20 6107.

Hearty Affection 2 Humor 4 LTC I'm 46 yo, HIV+, GWM, 6', 180# bottom. I'm friendly, caring, have varied interests, normal looks & body. LTR not necessarily lived in. Any race welcome. © 6108.

Smooth Seeks Hairy/Stocky Man GWM, 33, 155#, 5'10", bind/gm, stache, fair skin, gym toned, 7". Like: CWD/isco dancing, Sci-fi, movies, computers, leather, exploring new ideas, nature. Let's meet and let our inner-child play. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6109.

Enduring Affection
Everyone loves candlelight dinners
and walks on the beach, me too. I'm
a top with a strong character who is
looking for a loyal bottom for a relationship of enduring affection,
100
6110.

Seeking Friend To Play With Me: 27, GWM seeking a friend to share fun times and sensual joy with. You: under 25, honest and friendly. Muscles or experience not required. 20 6111.

Big Bear Wants Hibernating Partner to share cave away from bars, baths, parks & bookstores. Alone, together, a day at a time. Never had a relationship, great cocksucker thought. I'm 6'4", 300#, HIV+, 41, Italian, have BA/Drama. ♀ 6112.

I've Set My Goals
A million \$ in sales, eradicating HIV from my body, settling down. Big muscular, handsome daddy, versatile bottom, seeks loving man to cuddle, kiss and share my life. Be spiritual NS/ND. 22 6113.

HIV+ Master 6'3" 195 7.5X6 51
Seeks LTR with young (under 35), hung, in shape, smooth/shaved, slaw into discipline, restraint, whipping, flooging, spanking, CBT/TT, leather, CW, videos, gym, NS/ND/ND, monogamous, self supporting, call now boy.

6114.

Fit, Friendly, Professional Indian GM (30, 5'10", 174#) ISO sincere, intelligent, interesting GM, 25-35. My hobbies: swimming, walking, movies, reading and music.

JR. Officer Seeks CPT Picard GWM, 34, pos, rd hair, bl eyes, 5'11'', 170#, healthy, hiking, bii ng, cooking, quiet times, nights U: sim to 55, smoke, LD OK. № 6116.

Goateed Redhead
Seeks goateed dark-haired guy for
one-nighter, romantic filing, LTR or
whatever moves us. I'm 32, 185#,
6', neg, very intelligent, soft-hearted, You're slim, 30ish, neg, thinker.
22 6117.

Blk Prefers Hisp & Asians
I'm 24, 5'10", 160#, masc, shaved
head, handsome, nice body, looking
to meet cute, in shape guys, 18-27,
for friendship. ☎ 6118.

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM, 57", 130#, begs to
worship masc, verbal topman, over
40, wgt proportion. Cauc or Asian.
22 6119.

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino, 31, 5'7",
1904, HIV-, dark hair, brown eyes,
goatee, looking for GWM for friendship or maybe more between 25-37
years. Enjoy quality of life. Call me.

12 6120.

Hi Nature Lovers
HIV+, WM, 32, 170#, sense of
humor, attractive, hazel eyes,
healthy, masculine. Into beaches,
hiking, camping, tennis, roller blading, Meditation, Tribal drumming.
You: masculine, spiritual, 25–35,
healthy, loves nature w/a good
heart, all races. ☑ 6121.

I Think This Is A Way To Find
The dream of your life. The chances
are 50/50. Attractive European (30,
6') is searching through this ad for
the soulmate who is somewhere out
there. Let's find out. 22 6122

Nylon/Lycra/Spandex Lover
Seeks friends for future move to SF.
I also love ballet & modern dance &
tights. Enjoy outdoors & bicycling.
2 6207.

Smooth Blond Seeks Partner
East Bay, 42 yrs, strawberry blond
goodlooking, HIV-, musc, sexy bod
29 inch waist. Seeks a loving partner. Let's set up a date! 22 6208.

Looking For Partner & Soulmate GWM, versatile, prof, young, handsome, 50's, 5'12", 175#, HIV-seeking partner with G/H/L/MM, 40+, physically fit. I enjoy the outdoors, very romantic and want to be in love again. Waiting for your call. 22 6209.

Tired Of The Games People Play! Healthy, HIV+, GWM, 6', 165#, leather, levis, wranglers. CW danc-ing and music, outdoors, hikes, long drives, travel, dining out. Honest/Sincer only. Seeking simi-lar/same for friendship first, possi-ble LTR. 92 6210. lar/same for friends ble LTR. 22 6210.

Friendly GAM Top Looks 4 GWM Bottom, NS/ND, HIV-, slender, wt/ht proportionate. Friendship, maybe more. ☎ 6211.

Sexy Top Seeks Younger Bottom For dating, possible LTR> Me: GWM, 47, 61", 170#, good shape, brr/blu, VGL, hung, safe, HIV-Successful 15 yr LTR. Cal grad stu-dent. Enjoy palm trees, church, mu-seums. You: similar, VGL. № 6213.

Cuddly, Fun, San Francisco Cub 23, 5'7", 160#, dark hair/eyes, furry beard. Seeking friends, possi-bly more-friendship first, not casual encounters. You: bear/cub, 21-45, beard/goatee, no STD's or serious addictions. Love stocky, redheads, leather, glasses. № 6214.

Tall Goodlooking Guy ISO Mate Me: 30's, firm lanky body, big thick one, mostly top, brainy, fun-loving, cool, many talents & interests. You slim, well put together, passionate, inventive sexuality, clever mind, know how to give real love & receive it in return. 22 6215.

Butch Country Boy
Do you miss good ol'country living?
Escape to the mountains on weekends—chapwood, fireside romance,
hiking with handsome boyfriend. tel
me how butch you are. 22 6216.

Contentment And Happiness
Traveling through life together as
lovers-friends. Me: young, energetic,
creative, multi-talented, SGWM,
handsome, fun, sincere, committed.
You: slmilar, SGWM, 23-36yo, col-legiate, "boy-next-door", cute. Dating for LTR goal.

26 6218.

HIV+ GAM Seeks Lifemate Me: 37, 5'6", 135#, fit, attractiv very healthy, fun and easy going. You: GWM, tall, & slim, in shape, under age of 45. Serious only. 20 6217.

HIV+ GWM Seeks Buddy
Me: 58, 6'1'', 200#, shaved head,
trim goatee/stache, healthy, asymptomatic. Enjoy classical music,
walks, other eelectic interests. Oral
A/P. You: mature, compatible with
above.

20 6219.

Hot Hairy Man 28 yr old, Pakistani gay male, 5'6", 160#, olive complication, dark hair, brown eyes, beard, handsome, seeks a partner, 30-40, with preferably football player's body. Facial hair a plus. 12 6220.

Sexual Healing
GBM, top, prof, 40's, ISO GWM
bottom, 50 yrs or above who's physically & emotionally available to
pursue a LTR. I'm a lite smoker &
drinker. You must be medium to drinker. You must be stocky built. 🍄 6221

Shiksa: Experienced GWM, bright fun arts prof., 40's, 5'8", trim attr. healthy HIV+ ISO a Ben Stiller or other medit. type who's sane bright attr. NS. under 5'10" A+. © 6222.

A Hard Man Is Good To Find GWM, 46, 57", 140#, HIV+, Stand Nair, blue eyes, versatile bottom for dating, LTR? ISO HIV-pref., ht/wt. prop. Shared interests Movles, skiling, hiking, travel, cook ing, CW dancing.

2 6223. vel, cook-

Asian/Latin Boyfriend Wanted WM, 44, 5'9", 155, HIV+, loves fun, outdoors, dogs, music, cooking, movies, TV, reading, home, fireplace, hiking, bicycle, gardening, star gazing, staying healthy, driving, laughing, sleeping, seeks happy friend, companion, & partner. № 6224.

White Guy, 36, Poz And Healthy Active, mature, educated, settled, and responsible. Often wild and kinky, and definitely not tame. Into cars, rock, the desert, the water, the net, architecture, herb, and unhealthy food. Seek similar.

6226.

HIV+ Dark Dad Wanted HIV+ bottom, 35, 6', 185#, blue, brown in Concord area seeks dark hair, dark eyes, dark skin for LTR. Any race. I'm stable, healthy em-ployed.

6227.

Hindsome Talented Japanese Man 34, 57", 140, healthy HIV, hairy, 6", versatile, intelligent, sensitive sincere, and honest, independent, seeks mature Caucasian gentleman, professional, cultured and intelligent, 40-50. Stocky, 5'10''+, passable serious monogamous relationship. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6263.

Midwest Farm boy In SF VGL, prof, 46, 6'2", 180#, blond/blue, HIV-, NS, into hiking, biking, fine wine, travel, campling, spiritual seeks similar/younger for quality times. UR: masculine, affec-tionate, have sense of humor. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6313.

All American Redhead Attractive, creative, prof. GWM, 32, 5'8", nice bod ISO sexy, outgo-ing, masc. Midwestern man, HIV-, 30's, for friendship/dating. Enjoy rollerblading, camping, exotic trav-el. № 6314.

GAM 4 GBM

You: humorous, caring. Sensitive, over 30, HIV-, top, >5'9", in SF, intellectual. me: warm, caring, educated, 5'10", 145#, HIV-, 30's. Are you the one for me?

26 6315.

Latino Bottom Seeks Latino Top Sexy, hairy, Latino looking bottom seeks dominant Latino top for sex, friendship and more. @ 6317.

Nice Guy
Nice looking, 50, HIV+ 5'11",
190#, bro/bro, non-smoker, versatile seeks in shape, masculine guy
50. Friends? Sex? Dining?

220

Elfin Handsome Warm & Sincere (So, I'm told) 40 something GWM, looking for as young or younger horny HIV- top. "Daddy Pumpkin" If you love a comfy fun life let's talk! \$\alpha\$ 6321.

Reasonably Sane
GWM, 50, professional type, fun
loving, romantic, seeks same in SF
for companionship and adventure.

6322.

Romantically Sexual Sweet gdlking Japanese, 35, 5'8", 140#, bilkhlk, mustache & slim. Seeking mature, sincere, honest, hu-morous GWM, 50-60. Interests: the-ater, music, movies, outdoors. Sweet baby face A+. No muscular person. ☎ 6318.

New To SF, Seeking GAM or GHM GWM, 40, 170, 5'10", masc, handsome, adventurous, unpretentious. Into travel, outdoors, film. Sking mono relationship or friendship. Be 30+, smart. Am HIV+, asymptotic, working, healthy, Your status irrelevant. 22 6319.

Enjoyable Head Service Given by a GWM, 40's, 5'10", 170#, clean-cut looking, HIV-, seeking a mature trim guy, 55-65, who likes getting his rock's off on a weekly basis. Your place. **22** 6323.

SEEKING **ADVENTURE**

Man Pussy Needs Thin Wiry Type To fuck my slick wet man-cunt with big white cock and fill me with man juice. GWM, 39, 6′, 165#, HIV+, German/Italian, brown/hazel, goatee.

6124.

FF Bottom/Top 30's GHM, HIV+, ISO playmates for FF/WS and move. PA's tattoos. Hairy are pluses for fun or more.

€ 6125.

Wntd GWM/GWC Leather Tops By an exp GWM, 26, 6'6', 210#, slave ISO ass, ass pounding top to serve and please for prolonged ass pounding & face fucking, slave like 3 ways, spanking, tops titplay & more. 120 6126.

Adventurous?
I walk in your house, find you sleeping naked with your butt up. I grease you up, fuck you real good. Be under 35, weight prop. to height, any race. 22 6127.

Daytime Ecstasy 4 One Or More Hot bottom, 35, blond, goodlooking tight butt, deep throat sks well hung studs to work it soon!

6128.

Big Hefty Men Into Dildos Handsome GBM, 43yo, 5'11", 240#, seeks other big men my size or bigger into dildo play. Must be discreet, your place during the day. 2 6129.

Oral Service Required 40yrs, 5'9", blond/bl, 8 inches, HIV-, seeks young, handsome man to perform service on regular basis. 22 6130.

Insatiable Bottom
Smooth, tanned, goodlooking Asian boy, 35, 5'8", 160#, wants your fingers, cock & fist up his ass, but not necessarily in that order. 120 6131.

Vietnamese Are Number One WM ISO Vietnamese friends. Love Viet people, food, culture. now help me to speak Vietnamese. me: HIV-, 5'8", 160#, 50's. You: HIV-, any age. Let's go have some phó.

6133.

Let's Get Together GWM, 6', 180, HIV-, NS/ND, likes 6" to suck & get fucked, watch X videos for fun hot times, age & race not factor. Please call. 12 6135.

In Shape Handsome Bottom
Looking for a man to occasionally
enjoy an excellent blow job and then
fuck my tight ass. 3-ways considered. I'm Caucasian, 6', 175#,
HIV+, deep volce, big dicked and
masculine. Ride me and squirt. Oh
yeah.... 22 6339.

Mature Black Stud
Jet black throat choker needs an
oral expert to drain me 3x weekly.
Please no beards/goates (they
scratch), indirect phone numbers,
other hassles. Suck and run,

6136.

Hairy Top Fist Daddy Seeks Serious bottom with/without experience. Once or reg basis. Me: 6'1", 40's, dk hair, hairy arms, k hands, Pluses: younger, proportionate, hung, uncut, bod build or bub butt. ☐ 6137.

Hot Bottom Boy Alert Butch, Greek active to guy, 6'1", 185#, 37, bm/blue, stache, gym body, seeks thin to musculat boys/men, 20-40, for intense sexual pleasure. Tight ass, defined abs and arms are all pluses. Do it!

↑ 6138.

Get It Up And Show It Off Stand in your window and show yo hard dick to a pair of appreciative eyes on the street or tell me about your exhibitionistic scene, experiences.

2 6139.

Bottom Trapped In Top's Body Handsome GM, 31, 6', 195#, gym enhanced smooth swimmer's build, 33" w, 44", 6, 8" cut, cln shaven. ISO hung aggressive tops, 25-40, weight prop to height, uncut a plus. I'm adventurous U2. No BS. 122 6140.

Big Cocks Seek Yng Sexy Bottom 2 guys with big cocks looking for versatile young boy for sex and proven. You: under 25, smooth, nice body, big cock, and attractive. Us: masculine, sexy, early 30's. 12

Free Naked Fun
Refreshingly sensual massage available for young masculine guys with tight lean builds by healthy trim masculine WM 40. 22 6143.

Mustard Hanky (8"+)
Hot, handsome, horny, bottom,
35/6'2"/195, good shape sks well
hung men 4 action. Deluxe deep
throat and premium bubble butt.
Bareback and kink options.

12 6144.

Why I Wanna Suck You Off Soon: Not for your giant meat but your giant load! Which I swallow; otherwise, what a waste. Oh yeah, I've gotten pretty good at gettin guys to shoot all they got! 22 6228.

East Bay Erotic Sensuous BM Handsome professional BM, 9+" uncut, 6', 195#, masculine, squeaky clean, honest, HIV-, seeks similar well hung and/or big beefy muscular built, round bubble butt, a plus BM, race open.

6230.

Sub Slave Boy Wnts To Serve Top Seeking dom GWM/couple to use me and fuck my white ass/mouth, 26, hairy, 6'6", 235#, blu/bln skg 8"+ GWM Daddy. 22 6231.

Chubby Asian
Very goodlooking Asian, 5'11",
250#, size 38 jeans, looking for h
sex. You must be a non-smoker,
GWM, GBM or GLM, 180-250#,
masculine, 18-45yo. Call if U can
handle it.

© 6232.

Genital Games
San sadist ISO bottom for CBT. Lite to industrial strength. Imaginative, hot top, 45, muscles, leather, tats. Limits expanded. Be in shape.

Handsome Top Hung 8 & Thick Blond & in shape seek willing bottoms who are friendly & sincere for hot times in the morning. Let's do it?! 26 6234.

Blond Beach Boy Bottom
Tall, goodlooking, in shape, bubble
butt and deep throat seeks hung, in
shape men under 40 for day time
action in SF. 22 6235.

Hung Top Seeks Bottom Boys!!!
Hot, in shape, handsome, blond,
hung 8 uncut, guy wants submissive
pups for action. You are in shape to
35, have a sense of humor and desire to please. \$\mathbf{Q}\$ 6236.

Romantic GAM Top Looks 4 GWM Bottom, slim wt/ht proportionate, friendship and perhaps more. 22 6237.

Handsome Muscular Italian Seeks white guys with bald or shaved heads with big cocks for top to bottom pleasure. My ass or yours, let's fuck. 22 6238.

Leather Positive Man Wanted Black man, 30ish, seeks positive man into leather watching videos old/new long hrs South market are preferred top or bottom. 22 6239.

Deep Throat

I am looking for single and married man to give them a good blow job. I love to suck cock, taste cum. You won't be disappointed.

62 6240.

Thik Dadik ISO Hot Tite Bottom Dominant mature, 5'10",1 60#, hard-butt, mushroom-head thick 8" hotrod. Ready to ram deep down yo cylinder head. Will train eager, natural, athletic, tight jock boys. HIV-/anytime/macho.

6241.

I'm A Sucker 4 A Handsome Face I'm a attractive black gay male, looking for white or olive complexion goodlooking men to be my fuck buddies. Sincere, reliable men only! 22 6242.

In-Shape, Hot Asian Top Seeking taller, GWM under 40, easy going to have good time and non stop action. Me: 37, 5'7", 140#, smooth and tan. Maybe LTR. Safe sex only. 22 6243.

I Wanna Suck Your Butt Italian whore, 44, 6′, 190#, goats wants to bury my tongue up your I clean butt. Castro late night sex (12-5AM). Come and get off tonight. ☎ 6244.

Teacher Wanted
For passionate, sensuous lovemaking lessons. Pupil: 30, WM, 6′, lean,
toned, good shape, attractive Sunnyvale resident. Teacher: WM, lean to
muscular, excellent physical condition, handsome, similar age. Must
be HIV-.

↑ 22 6245.

Romantic Bottom
I'm average looking, 5'8", 135#,
40, top, 8", easy going, interesting,
Looking for average to homely looking, friendly bottom, any race,
weight proportional, for barrier free
sex, friendship, maybe LTR.

€
246.

Black & Latinos
GWM with hairy HIV- ass wants 3
way. I love to deep throat your cock
while being fucked hard. Age not a
factor. Me: 55 yr, 5'2", 115#,
very, very tight ass & stache with
hungry mouth. Will travel. Serious
only. Thanks. One or more men OK.
22 6247.

Hard Daddy Needs Hungry Boy Masculine, hairy, little bear Dadd with pure top energy, HIV-, verbal imaginative, seeks hungry submis-sive buddy for long hot sessions of role playing, domination, oral ser-vice, spanking.

20 6248.

Sperm Drinker
Asian and Latin sperm especially
desired. my soft, deep throat is your
ejaculate receptacle and also craves
your hot piss. Call now for same
day/night. Call back and draining.

22 6264.

Deep Throat Seeks Trophy Cocks Eager masculine WM, 40's, fit, at-tractive, needs heavy equipment for oral scenes your way at your place. Age, race unimportant. Verbal A+. Be serious and seriously hung. Will travel. 120:6326.

Sensuous Touch
Attractive, experienced masseur,
tall, great body, 30's, with creative
hands and table wants to exchange
healing, sensuous massage with
goodlooking, well-fit men, 20-40,
with some experience. Group OK.

Let's Go Camping
Seeking camping buddles for weekend excursions. I'm 6'1", 180#,
muscular, masculine, 44yo. You be
muscular, masculine, 35-55yo.
Summer is here. Let's go.

© 6328.

Looking For

In charge guy who can administer proper discipline and respect. Will do all I can to obey and please. My age 52, and slim. Please call. 26329.

CHP LT Motor Officer
New to gay scene. must be discreet.
me: HIV-, well hung, handsome,
6'9", seeks facsimile, tall boots and
uniform preferred. 22 6330.

Att.: Boys Dad, 50 years, wants well-built W or L boys to 30, any size, for bondage, massage, bathroom proce-dures, spankings, other control ritu-als. No blind dates, we meet first. ☑ 6331.

Hot Stuff & Outrageous Men Hello my name is Butch, I am look-ing for Hot-Daddy top man, hair + age 38 to 52. Let's do it. If you live in Palo Alto to Santa Clara. me: brn, blue, 245, 6′, 32. 6332.

Half-Cocked & Oral Only Attractive, masculine, non-scene, not promiscuous WM, 30, 6'2", 195#, brn/blue seeks cute, younger male, self-respecting, (any race) for adventure and oral play. Under 27yo only.

6333.

On Your Knees Suck Boy WM, 40's, HIV-, average build verbal needs regular obedient head at your SF place. You are HIV-, healthy, slim or muscular, hungry, deep throat cum lover into taking orders.

6334.

Small Guys
Short? Lt Wt? Submissive? Dominant, safe, GWM, 57", 145#, HIV.
40's, likes errite butt play, spanking, face-sitting, humiliation, sexy underwear trips. Lt B&D, training welcome. Limits respected.
6336.

Top Wants Bottom
White top, 53, 6', 155#, bri/brin, glasses, 9" cock seeks hot young white or Latino bottoms under 40 who want to get fucked by older man.

62 6337.

Wanted: Straight Or Bi Men Goodlooking GWM, 40, 6 ft, 190#, and HIV+, seeks other goodlooking bj, or straight acting men for friendhsip and more. Must be good-looking and between 25-40. NS/ND, light drinker.

☐ 6338.

Clean Enough To Eat
I'm 36, HIV-, handsome, husky, oral
GWM and your hair's still wet from
the shower when my tongue hits the
spot. Prefer smooth, cute, masculine, younger totally healthy dude.

26 6340.

Hot Serious Bareback Fuckers
If you want a hot juicy/wet cum fuck
w/a well fucked ass 1 on 1 or gamb bang...GBM, 39, 511", 146#, goa-tee, shaved head. ISO men htw/brop. masc, & serious only.
Call now! \$\mathbb{\Omega}\$ 6341.

Wanted: Big Cock On Lean HIV-Guy. We: love slow, intense suck sessions. Me: handsome, tall, foot-ball player type shoulders. I worship big dick (8ish & up) with right guy: upbeat, smart, warm, laughs. № 6342.

GWM ISO Advnturous/Kinky GAM Nice, attractive, fit, NS, GWM, 31, 5'11", 170#, brn/blue, clean shaven seeks in shape smooth NS, clean shaven, GAM bottom for WS, and teach me to be a good fisting top.

6349.

Aggressive Asian Men Submissive GWM, 41, 6′, 165#, loves to meet Oriental males who are dominant and enjoy fucking and oral sex.

26343.

7 Hr Suck Slut Long drk blond hair, 5'10", broad shoulders, 145#, long slow and swallows long dicks preferred. Loves to party friendly non-drinker. Gentle late 30's.

2 6345.

Sexy Italian Seeks Playmate GWM, 40, 5'10". 185#, br (bald), br, very hairy, goatee, well hung, toppish in LTR. Sks discreet GWM in similar situation. Hairy & vers. A+. 22 6346.

Leather Btm Seeks Leather Top 37yo, 5'10", 170#, br/br, mus-tached, 8", in great shape, hairy verbal safe bottom seeks ass slap-ping food time w/verbal leather top man. № 6347.

SF Dad Wants Playmate GWM, bearded, 60, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, NS/ND seeks trim GWM/GBM, 35-50, for erotic touch, play, J0, facial hair a plus. 22 6348.

Serious Playmate
GWM, 50ish & cute, HIV-7" cock,
115#, blue, short balding hair,
stache. Like to be FF, BT, fuck my
hairy ass. Spanked, sucking big
cocks, 3-way 6K. I lay back & you
rape me your way. Age & race unim
portant. No quickles or body odor.
Explore my fantasies.

6351.

Hot Car Hot Vacation Hot Times 30 year old hot Italian male, lookin for white hot male under 30 to travel to Mexico in red sports car from June 13 to 20. 12 6350.

FETISHES

Oral Slave Gdlkng GWM blo/blu gm, 5'11", 155#, 36, needs dominant master, with hairy chest & arms, for cock-sucking, rimming, body worship, WS, TT, BJ, etceteras. Very submis-sive.

22 6145.

Hot Guy WToe Ring Sks Barefoot. Buddy. Masculine, tan, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'8'', 140#, HIV-, craves reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, massaging, naked body closeness, Safe 3U, fantasies. light odor, toughened soles OK, Further friendship possible.

10 CK, Further friendship possible. 12 6146.

Muscle Worship
WM, late 40's, seeks muscular guys
of any size into pumping up, posing,
flexing and being admired. Especial
ly like defined biceps, hot pecs.
Asians a plus.

↑ 6147.

Hard Nipples - Hard Cuban Dick Suck and bite hard on my big nip-ples while I stroke my big cuban head. let's pig each other with spit. Big men A+. All races. 22 6148.

Daytime Asshole Eater
"Get your asshole eaten by a pro!"

10 6149.

Men In Spandex GBM, 32, 6'2", 175#, attractive, wants to get together with you for fun and play in and out of spandex, jockstraps, speedos etc. All races welcome. Give me a chance. ♀ 6150.

Cut WM Come Get Naked Have your nice big feet tongued & licked by 50's hot tongue & mouth. E.B. ☎ 6256.

Expert Deep Throat Service Given to extra well hung men wear-ing business suits who need daytime relief given by a mature dedicated phallic worshiper with respectful at-titude. 22 6152.

Bend Over Or Sit
Asshole eater with r/chair. Come sit
and let me eat you out for hours.
Me: Hisp, very attractive, 40, 51",
165#. You: hot, in shape, to 45,
with hot puckering hole & lips. \$\mathbb{Q}\$
6249.

Rubber/Latex Mutual Action! GW bear, 44, 5'10", 270#, tattoos, piercings, love wet/wild action in rubber/latex. Also love bondage, kissing, cuddling. **20** 6250.

Sit On My Face Goodlooking scat top with great butt wanted by young healthy handsome hung guy. Let's do it. You won't be sorry. **2** 6251.

Leather/Wrestling/S&M Strong, tough, hairy-muscled leatherman fights for topman hon-ors—no rules, no holds barred, to submission/domination. Winner ex-acts spoils — bondage, humillation, punishment. Real! **22** 6252.

Idol Worshipper
I'm totally crazy about goodlooking
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tan & goodlooking. Honest guys
only. 22 6253.

Tickle Bottom Seeks Top
Hold me down, make me squirm. Tie
me up make me squirt. Sexy boy,
30, 5'8", 130#, into being restrained, slow J0. You are in
charge. 12 6254.

Hairy Scat Top 45, 5'9", into acting out, teacher, doctor, boss, incest fantasies, unidoctor, boss, incest fantasies, uniforms, underwear getting dirty and serviced by older bottoms. 22 6255

Slave Boy Wanted Bi WM, 37, fit, smooth and shaved head to toe seeks white, smooth slave boy, (18-29) for sweaty jack off sessions in sauna and steam. light spanking and slave games.

□
6257.

Filthy Street Bare Feet GWM, 29, slim, into natural barefoot, lifestyle; always barefoot, everywhere. Wants similar guys with rough, filthy feet for barefoot outings on grimy streets. Will worship your filthy feet; mutual OK. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 6352.

Feet Dark Socks And More Attractive Latino, 30, 5'11", 190#, HIV-, Virgo, size 12, nice feet. Would like to meet Latinos or Whites under 32, NS/ND, into foot fetish. Serious only. No lies. **12** 6353.

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If you love wearing chaps, leather
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to meet you. East Bay Concord/Walnut Creek.

2 6355.

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Looking For Butch Bottom B/M cpl both 33, 7.5/7, in shape. You: under 35, black, white or Latino, goodlooking, nice body. Into partying, big cocks, hot steamy sex. If it works let's repeat it!!! 22 6154.

2 Hot Guys For You!!
1 hung top 8 uncut, & 1 voracious bottom. Both in shape, handsome & ready for action, you are friendly, fun, and looking for action.

6258.

GW Couples Wanted By Bi-AM Bi-AM, 29, handsome, smooth-skinned, professional seeks GW cou-ple for hot sex. Let me be your live SEX TOY! Blondes a plus. 122 6259.

T*** Is The Word!
GWM, young 41, short blond, flattop & stash, 5'9", 145#, HIV-.
Love FF & rimming hot bottoms.
Feed me while fucking my ass. Uniform, leather, levis, jock straps etc.
Attire makes me hot. № 6265.

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Are you 30-55? HIV-? Non-smoker?
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Hairy, stashes, balding a plus. \$\mathbb{Q}\$
6356.

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6155.

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Older Man Likes Older Men Goodlooking PGWM, good body, hair, eyes, height etc. Not into scene. ISO "travel" companion, 40's-50's, more? info? Call. © 6157.

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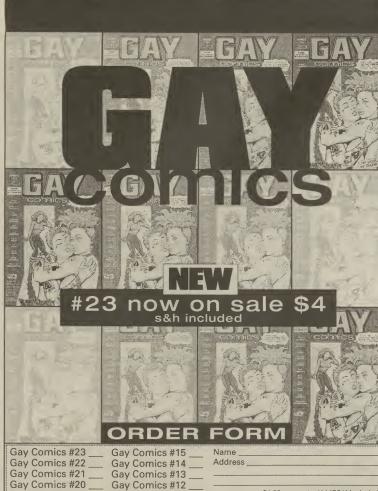
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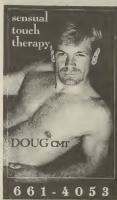
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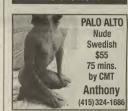
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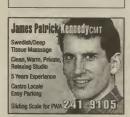


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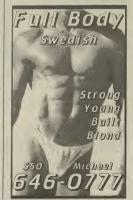






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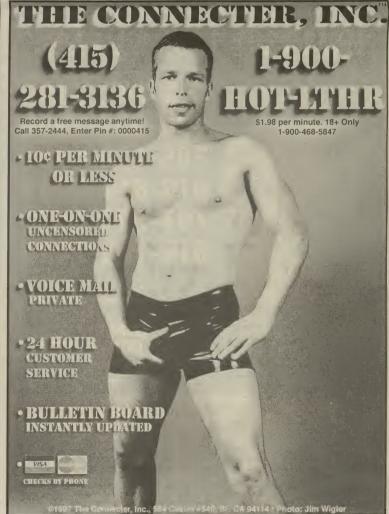
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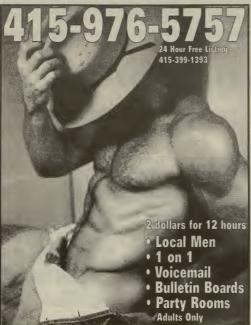
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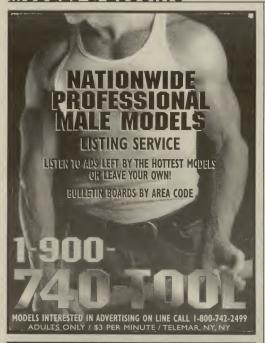
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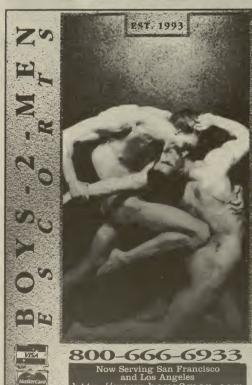








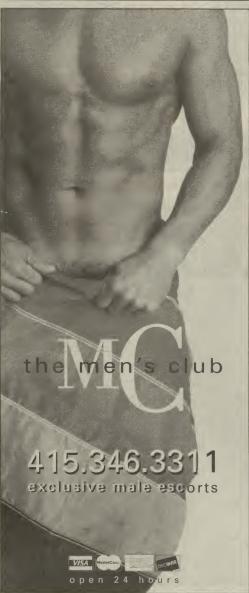
















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